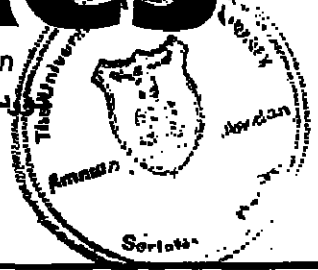


Goukouni reportedly wounded

PARIS (R) — Chad rebel leader Goukouni Oueddei was seriously wounded when he resisted arrest by Libyan soldiers in Tripoli on Saturday, his spokesman said. Goukouni's spokesman, Ahmed Kallam, told reporters Mr. Goukouni and several of his aides in the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) were arrested in the center of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qaddafi. Mr. Goukouni refused to follow the soldiers, who opened fire, injuring him and killing his four bodyguards, Kallam said. Two Libyan soldiers also died in the shooting. Kallam said he had no details on Mr. Goukouni's condition and did not know where he had been taken to. He said 55 GUNT officials had been rounded up by Libyan forces in and around Tripoli since Thursday. The GUNT forces have until now been fighting Chad President Hissene Habre's rule with Libya's financial and military aid in northern Chad but Mr. Goukouni recently offered to start peace talks with Mr. Habre without preconditions. The spokesman also reported fighting in northern Chad between elements faithful to Mr. Goukouni and Libyan forces, saying the GUNT took several Libyan soldiers prisoner. He did not elaborate.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
إصدار تليج يوميات سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الراي)



2 bombs explode in Paris

PARIS (AP) — Two bombs exploded in Paris early Saturday at the national immigration office and an air charter company, causing serious damage but no injuries. Responsibility for both attacks was claimed in a statement attributed to the extreme left French organization Direct Action, which said it was protesting the recent expulsion of 101 illegal immigrants from Mali and the detention of Algerian opposition figures. Police said the first explosion, at 1:30 a.m. in the building housing the Minerve air-charter company on Rue Cambon in Paris' First District, seriously damaged the interior of the second-floor offices. A Minerve jet was chartered by the French Interior Ministry and used Oct. 18 to deport 101 Malians who had been living in France. The second explosion came 10 minutes later in front of the immigration office on Rue de la Procession in the 15th district, blowing out the facade and windows and causing serious damage inside. A message sent to a French news agency claimed responsibility for Direct Action. "French imperialism is imposing its immigration quotas," it said.

Volume 11 Number 3312 AMMAN, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2, 1986, SAFAR 30, 1408 Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordan Armed Forces, on Saturday called at the Armed Forces General Headquarters where he was received upon arrival by Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb and senior army officers. The King met with Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker for some time and issued some directives. The King was briefed by senior army officers on the Armed Forces' role in the country's forthcoming five-year development plan. Hearing the briefing with the King were also His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Cabinet members, Royal Court Secretary General Bassam Saket and senior Armed Forces officers.

Assad receives Iranian message

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad received a message of solidarity on Saturday from Iranian President Ali Khamenei. A presidential spokesman said Mr. Khamenei expressed Iran's solidarity with Syria "in its stand against imperialist-Zionist threats and pressures." Mr. Khamenei also denounced what he called campaigns against Syria, the spokesman said. The message was delivered by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati who arrived in Damascus Friday night.

Craxi campaigns for SDI in China

PEKING (R) — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi on Saturday attempted to ease Chinese reservations over President Reagan's "Star Wars" space defence system and likened it to the use of gas masks on battlefields. Mr. Craxi quoted Chinese leaders as saying the strategic defence initiative (SDI) was a key issue for the Soviet Union, which, if forced to catch up the U.S. in this area, would have to commit many resources that would otherwise be spent on economic development.

U.S. may sell advanced fighter planes to Honduras

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration is considering the sale of advanced U.S. fighter planes to Honduras in a move critics charge could alter the military balance in Central America and prompt Nicaragua to acquire its first Soviet jets. The State Department said the United States was currently discussing with Honduras a proposed sale of U.S. F-5 fighter jets to upgrade the Central American nation's fleet of 12 ageing French-built Super Mystere planes. This would alter the military balance in the region and possibly cause Nicaragua to carry out an oft-stated threat to acquire advanced Soviet jets, they said.

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King opens new Parliament session

The Palestinian issue is our main concern; Jordanians and Palestinians will continue to share the same experience until we liberate occupied lands • Our top priority is the safeguarding of national security, both internally and externally, and the adherence to the supremacy of law and order • Our Armed Forces are the symbol of national unity, reflecting the healthy cohesion of the various sectors of society • International conference has become centre of all efforts and contacts for solving Palestinian problem • If there has to be a preparatory committee, our support goes to Soviet proposal on participation of five Security Council members only

By Jordan Times Staff Writers

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said on Saturday that the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples shared the same historical experience and pledged to continue joint efforts towards liberating the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

In a speech from the throne marking the opening of the fourth regular session of Parliament, the King said Jordan's commitment to the Palestinian cause and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people was not, and would not be, affected by the suspension early this year of political coordination between the Jordanian government and the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The King reiterated Jordan's stand that an international conference on the Palestinian

problem with the participation of all parties involved in the Middle East conflict including the PLO and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council should be the forum for Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The King disclosed that Jordan was in touch with the European Community (EC) member states in a bid to bring about an EC role in settling U.S.-Soviet differences over the proposed international conference. Pointing out that Washington and Moscow, both of which had voiced reservations in

the past over such a conference, have now agreed to on the broad framework for an international conference, the King said "... the discussion has now surpassed the question of convening the conference, since this is approaching unanimity."

The King said Jordan supported the Soviet call for the formation of a preparatory committee, comprising representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council, to prepare for an international conference if such a committee was deemed necessary for the success of peace talks.

The King outlined five constants of the Jordanian government's policy towards the Palestinian problem: — Jordan is not the representative of the Palestinian people and will not accept to assume such a role. — Jordan is not and will not be a substitute for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

— Jordan is committed to the resolutions adopted by the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat and the 1982 summit in Fez, Morocco. — Jordan will continue to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The King said that mobilising Arab and international efforts towards convening the proposed international conference on the Middle East and towards supporting the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation remained the two major goals of the Jordanian government's policy.

The King pledged that Jordan would go ahead with its economic development plan for the West Bank and Gaza and said the Kingdom would not be dissuaded from implementing the plan by

(Continued on page 3)
Full text of the King's speech to Parliament appears on page 5



His Majesty King Hussein opens the fourth regular session of Parliament on Saturday with a speech from the throne (Petra photo)

Indonesian minister begins visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral relations with visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja on Saturday, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Mr. Mochtar arrived here earlier Saturday on a three-day official visit, which is the first by an Indonesian foreign minister to Jordan.

The two ministers will also discuss the possibility of expanding Jordanian exports to Indonesia, including phosphates, potash and chemical fertilisers, and Jordanian imports of tea, coffee and timber from Indonesia, Petra said.

Mr. Mochtar is expected to visit Iraq after Jordan. The Indonesian minister is accompanied by an official delegation from his department and from the Indonesian Ministry of International Trade.

The delegation were greeted at the airport by Mr. Masri and other senior officials and Indonesian Ambassador to Jordan Zaimul Yasul and embassy staff.

Mr. Masri hosted a banquet in honour of the Indonesian minister and his accompanying delegation



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri chats with his Indonesian counterpart Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, who began an official visit to Jordan on Saturday, at a banquet he hosted Saturday evening (Petra photo)

Saturday evening. The banquet, held at the Marriott Hotel, was attended by several Cabinet members and senior officials as well as a number of heads of diplomatic missions in Jordan.

Iraq lodges protest at U.N. over Iranian shelling

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq has complained to the U.N. over Iran's shelling and air raids on residential areas in Iraq and called on the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to contact Iran and send a representative to visit Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs).

Iraq said Saturday it had ended a 48-hour artillery shelling on Basra.

Iraq's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the Basra shelling ended at noon.

Iraq told U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a letter that three children and two women were wounded in the Basra shelling Friday. Twenty-two houses, a primary school and several cars were damaged, the letter said, according to Baghdad Radio.

It added that 32 civilians, including 23 children, were wounded and 18 houses and 10 cars were damaged as a result of Iranian air raids in the central Iraqi province of Wasat, and one person was killed and 15 others were wounded in Halabcha in northern Iraq, the letter added.

On Friday, Iraq threatened revenge, saying Iraqi forces "are fully prepared to enforce the deterrent punishment that would suit their (Iranian) crimes." The timing of such punishment, it added, would be determined by the Iraqi leadership.

Iraq also asked the ICRC to persuade Iran to allow ICRC representatives to visit Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran "to protect them and ensure their rights in accordance with international laws and conventions," Baghdad Radio reported.

"These brutal methods totally violate the Geneva Convention and also violate the simplest rules of human treatment," the ministry was quoted as saying.

An Iraqi spokesman said on Saturday Iraqi warplanes attacked and crippled a ship off Iran's gulf coast.

Fayez reelected House speaker with 47-13 victory over Shbeilat

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Akef Al Fayez was reelected as speaker of the Lower House of Parliament on Saturday with a sweeping 47-13 vote victory over last-minute surprise candidate Deputy Leith Shbeilat.

The nomination of Mr. Shbeilat at the outset of the House's first ordinary session after Parliament's official inauguration took the majority of the 60-member House and other people by surprise since Mr. Fayez was reported to be the only contender for the post until late Friday.

Mr. Fayez has been served three consecutive terms as House speaker since parliamentary life was restored in 1984.

Abdullah Al Kiebi Al Shraideh, the oldest deputy, presided before and during the election process on Saturday in line with the House tradition. Deputies Farah Abu Jaber, Jamal Obeidat and Abdul Baqqi Gannmo supervised the secret balloting process.

Despite obvious signs of old age which affected the clarity of his speech, Mr. Shraideh, dressed in a traditional Jordanian costume, managed to control the election process. However, he was caught off guard when Deputy Shbeilat said: "I nominate myself to the speakership post" after Irbid Deputy Rizk Al Batayneh nominated Mr. Fayez.

The counting of votes started right after the 60 legislators made their choice. The two contenders were seen looking nervously around the hall as the votes were counted with the supervising committee reading out "Leith" and "Fayez" as entered in the ballot papers.

The silence was shattered when the count reached 31 votes in favour of Mr. Fayez with loud cheers from Mr. Fayez' supporters.

A count of 31 meant that Mr. Fayez had won the contest.

Explaining his self-nomination, Mr. Shbeilat said later that "I made this step just to reinforce the principle of democracy in the

House' elections and to prove that deputies still have the right of self-expression."

A senior Jordanian official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, said the Cabinet knew Saturday morning of Mr. Shbeilat's decision to run for the House speakership.

"Everybody also knew that non-one would be able to beat Mr. Fayez since he is staunchly supported by the majority of the members," said the official who also is a deputy.

Saturday's election process, according to observers, was a clear sign of a major shift away by deputies from supporting Mr. Fayez' policy of handling the House sessions as expressed by a number of deputies who were interviewed by the Jordan Times.

To some others the reelection of Mr. Fayez showed that his popularity had neither increased nor decreased in comparison with the results of last year's election.

The speaker won the 1985

(Continued on page 3)

Syria is exerting 'all efforts to free hostages'

DAMASCUS (AP) — Information Minister Yassin Rajjoud said Saturday that Syria was "continuing to exert all efforts" to secure the release of all hostages held in Lebanon.

His statement came as British intermediary Terry Waite was involved in a new initiative to free the captives (See page 2).

Mr. Rajjoud, asked to comment on Lebanese radio reports that a release was imminent, told the Associated Press: "Everything will be announced in due course." He did not elaborate.

He declined to give any indication of whether the release of any hostages was imminent or whether any of the 20 foreigners missing in Lebanon have actually been handed over to Syrian troops based in Lebanon.

Earlier, the French government described as baseless reports on radio stations in Lebanon that two of seven missing French have been handed over to Syrians in the Bekaa Valley of east Lebanon.

"Syria is continuing to exert all its efforts on humanitarian and civilised grounds" to secure the release of the hostages, Mr. Rajjoud said.

In another development, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Friday that the London attempt to blow up an Israeli airliner last April showed "unambiguously" that Syria was involved in terrorism.

He said the United States was prepared to take action in response after it had consulted with its allies.

The Reagan administration withdrew its ambassador from Damascus last week after Nazir Hindawi had been convicted of an attempt to blow up an El Al airliner, allegedly with the help of Syrian diplomats. The case led to Britain breaking relations with Syria.

"The British case shows clearly and unambiguously ... that the government of Syria takes part in

Bdeir sworn in as Senate member

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Saturday held a 10-minute session after the fourth regular session of Parliament was formally opened by His Majesty King Hussein.

During the session, Mr. Mohammad Ali Bdeir was sworn in as deputy to replace former Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, who has resigned from his Senate membership.

The Senate, which met under the speakership of Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, also formed a three-man committee to draft the Senate reply to the King's speech from the throne at the reconvening of Parliament earlier. The committee includes Senators Khalil Al Salem, Akram Zuhair and Jouma Hammad.

Waite raises hopes for release of hostages

BEIRUT (R) — Rumours over a possible release of Western hostages flew around Beirut Saturday after British chargé d'affaires Terry Waite hinted at progress in his mediation efforts with their militant Muslim kidnappers.

Western diplomats kept silent amid a welter of speculation fuelled by Mr. Waite's surprise appearance in Beirut and Cyprus Friday and by U.S. President Ronald Reagan who said he had his fingers crossed for American hostages in Lebanon.

"We don't know anything," one U.S. embassy official repeated patiently Saturday. French diplomats were unavailable.

Mr. Waite's whereabouts were unknown after he fled from Beirut to Larnaca, Cyprus, in a U.S. military helicopter and was driven away Friday night by a U.S. embassy car.

"I have no information about where he has been or where he is going," U.S. embassy spokesman Jack Sears said in Nicosia. He could not confirm that Mr. Waite had arrived in Cyprus.

In several visits to Beirut over the past year, Mr. Waite has sought the release of three U.S. nationals held by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) group.

They are journalist Terry Anderson, hospital director David Jacobson and university dean Thomas Sutherland. Five other U.S. citizens are among a total of 22 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

While in Beirut, Mr. Waite telephoned international news agencies to say he was in the city and spoke of progress in his freedom mission.

"It is just possible something might happen in the next day or so," he told Reuters. "It looks there might be some hope ... one wouldn't be here if there is no

possibility ... I am here but I am not contactable."

As the rumours multiplied, it became increasingly hard to separate fact from fantasy.

An anonymous "diplomatic source" said Jihad had dropped its demand for the release of 17 Arabs jailed in Kuwait for 1983 bomb attacks on the U.S. and French embassies there.

This could help to pave the way for the release of the three Americans and of three Frenchmen the group also says it holds.

Mr. Waite's last publicly-reported negotiations on behalf of the U.S. hostages broke down last December when Kuwait said it would not discuss the issue with him.

A wilder story said six Americans and two French hostages were to be exchanged for Georges Abdallah, suspected leader of a radical Lebanese group, jailed in France for arms possession.

The presence of two executive jets on the tarmac at Larnaca Airport excited further speculation.

This cooled when one proved to have been chartered by a U.S. television crew anxious to reach Damascus. A spokesman for the Swiss-based Aeroleasing Company said the other was on hire to a private businessman and was due to return to Geneva soon.

In London the Anglican Church said Saturday Mr. Waite is optimistic about the imminent release of American or other foreign hostages held by Lebanese

militants.

Archbishop Runcie's spokeswoman Eve Keatey said of Mr. Waite's mission: "His plans are uncertain throughout the next two days, but he expects to be on the move. He is cautiously optimistic about the possibility of further hostages being released."

Mr. Waite had a telephone conversation with Ms. Keatey after arriving in Larnaca.

The Anglican envoy is expected to have further talks with negotiators during the weekend but his movements will remain secret, according to church sources.

President Reagan said Friday that "I've got my fingers crossed" over reported new efforts to free American hostages in Lebanon.

But White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the administration had nothing to report on a possible release and would not speculate on whether there would be any developments.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said, "we continue to make every effort through every avenue we can to bring about the release of American hostages and others."

But he said the administration had nothing to report on possible movement in Beirut. "I wouldn't steer you either way," he said.

"We've made efforts in the past through intermediaries and they haven't borne fruit," he said.

Secretary of State George Shultz, answering questions following a speech in Los Angeles, said of the latest rumours, "we hope that that's correct."

But he added, "we've been disappointed so often that I'll just say I hope it's true, we'll pray that it's true, we'll work to make it true. But I will not feel very comfortable until they're here in the United States."

Oman: Gulf states ready to counter threats

ABU DHABI (R) — The Gulf Arab states have plans to counter threats posed by the Iran-Iraq war to their oil shipments through the Gulf and will use them if necessary, Sultan Qaboos ibn Said of Oman was quoted Saturday as saying.

He gave no details, but told the United Arab Emirates (UAE) daily Al Itihad that Gulf leaders had agreed to consult when any development occurred.

About 70 merchant vessels, mostly tankers, have been hit this year by either Iran or Iraq in a maritime extension of their six-year-old ground war.

The so-called "tanker war" is high on the agenda of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit opening in Abu Dhabi Sunday. It will bring together the leaders of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Asked whether the GCC would use military force to protect its ships and tankers, Sultan Qaboos said: "We will evaluate every problem individually and see how we can deal with it either through political means or in other ways."

On Oman's development plans, he said the government was giving special attention to fishing to diversify income from oil.

"Fish resources, to which I give always priority, will no doubt be the big alternative resource for national income," he said. This would require intensified study and research.

He also said modern methods could develop agriculture to double the amount of cultivated land.

Kuwait reportedly considering oil pipeline

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, apparently singled out as a target in latest Gulf war shipping attacks, may seek to export its oil by overland pipeline to cut its reliance on the strategic waterway, diplomats and oil industry sources say.

Local dailies, quoting sources in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Friday, said the northern Gulf emirate might build a pipeline through Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea.

One source also hinted that Gulf Arab states further south were reviewing options for a pipeline through Oman so that vessels could be loaded outside the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the waterway.

Usually well-informed oil industry sources said they knew of no firm Kuwaiti plans yet for a pipeline.

The idea first mooted in 1984 as a joint project for the Western Gulf Arab states making up the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which groups Saudi Arabia and its

allies Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE.

The Kuwaiti dailies Al Anba and Al Rai Al Aam quoted unnamed sources in Abu Dhabi, which next week hosts a summit of GCC heads of state, as saying the pipeline option was now under study by Kuwait because of an upsurge in tanker attacks.

The study, said Al Anba, was for a line to Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port of Yanbu 1,120 kilometres south-west of Kuwait.

Another Kuwaiti daily Al Watan quoted unnamed officials in Abu Dhabi as saying: "The Gulf states like Qatar and the UAE would prefer to ship their oil from Arabian Sea harbours."

This, it said, hinting at a partial revival of proposals for a joint Gulf Arab pipeline through Oman bypassing the Strait of Hormuz, would be more economic because of distance.

It nevertheless would be very costly, it added, without elaborating on whether or not it would still be feasible.

About 70 merchant vessels, mostly tankers, have been hit this year in the so-called tanker-war offshoot of the six-year-old ground conflict between Iran and Iraq. The past six attacks, all blamed on Iran, were on Kuwaiti shipping.

Abdul Fattah Al Bader, chairman of the state-owned Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), subsequently vowed that the emirate would keep its oil moving through the Gulf despite what he called a dangerous escalation in the assault on shipping.

He said Kuwait was negotiating a \$180-million order with South Korean shipyard for several new tankers to add to its existing 22-vessel fleet.

Saudi Arabia already pipes a lot of oil through Yanbu in a project originally estimated to cost \$500 million by 1987.

It was designed to link Abqaiq near its Gulf shores with a 1,120 kilometre line able to carry 3.0 million barrels a day to the Red

Sea.

Iraq, whose Gulf ports it knocked out early in the war, has built a spur to the pipeline, enabling it to pump 500,000 BPD a day from Yanbu while also pumping 1 million BPD by pipeline to Turkey.

It expects to boost its pipe capacity through Saudi Arabia 1.6 million BPD within two years with exports via Turkey rising 1.5 million by the end of next year.

Iran, whose main Kharg oil export terminal in the north Gulf and makeshift Siri loading base in the south waterway have suffered by Iraqi assaults, has also mapped plans for a 380 kilometre pipeline.

There has been little word of the \$200 million project progress since tenders were set about a year ago for the million BPD line to run from Gurreh, the pumping station Kharg, along the coast Asalohet outside the 100-kilometre range of Iraqi aircraft.

Tunisian opposition leaders jailed

TUNIS (R) — On the eve of general elections, 14 members of a Tunisian opposition party were each jailed for six months Saturday for belonging to an illegal organisation.

The 14 are members of the Socialist Progressive Assembly (RSP), which until now had been tolerated by authorities without being officially recognised.

Six days ago the party announced a boycott of the elections due to be held Sunday, alleging arbitrary disqualification of its candidates.

It had formed an election alliance with the officially recognised Communist Party, which has also withdrawn from the poll for the same reason.

RSP leader Ahmad Nejib Chabbi, a prominent lawyer, was not in the Tunis court to hear the sentence passed on him and 13 colleagues. Defence lawyers said they would appeal.

The small RSP party was founded in December 1983. A case was quickly brought against its members for forming an illegal association, but hearings kept being postponed and dragged on until Saturday.

The RSP is one of a number of parties which are tolerated, but not recognised, including the Islamic Tendency Movement (MIT).

Three parties, including the Communists, have been officially recognised in the past five years. The RSP and the Communists, who linked themselves in a "democratic alliance," published a manifesto calling for greater political and trade union freedoms. They also called for a general amnesty for political and trade unionist prisoners.

Sunday's poll is being boycotted by all opposition groups.

Carter urges halt to Iranian 'adventurism'

DUBAI (R) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has urged the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a grouping of Arab Gulf states, to increase their efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and what he called Iranian "adventurism."

He told the Dubai daily Gulf News after meeting United Arab Emirates (UAE) Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Friday night that the GCC summit meeting starting in Abu Dhabi Sunday was a good chance to renew peace efforts.

"The GCC countries at what is an important summit need to increase their efforts to end the war and to prepare against the adventurism that may be attempted by Iran against its neighbours in the Gulf," he said.

The GCC, grouping Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, has sought unsuccessfully to bring Iran to the negotiating table and end the six-year-old war, which tops the summit agenda. Iran says it will not negotiate with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Carter Friday praised cooperation between Gulf Arab states, saying it made them stronger against war and bloodshed.

Mr. Carter told Reuters prospects for peace in the region were heavily dependent on cooperation between the GCC countries.

Mr. Carter, referring to summit, said: "This is a very signal to all those involved, peace is preferable and that commitment and cooperation they have strengthened it considerably against any kind of war or bloodshed."

The foundation has projects in Africa, Bangladesh and Pakistan. The former president accompanied by Pakistani Agha Hassan Abedi, president of Luxembourg-based Bank Credit and Commerce International, and Japan philanthropist Ryoichi Sasagawa.

On Friday, Mr. Carter visited the Al Ain Museum and took in scenic views of the Hajar Mountains bordering Oman.

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Bombs, explosives found in yard of Cypriot prison

NICOSIA (R) — Grenades and explosives have been found hidden in the yard of Nicosia's central prison in what may have been an escape bid by Arab commandos jailed there, Cypriot officials sources said Saturday.

"An investigation is still going on ... everyone there is suspected," government spokesman Petros Voskarides said.

Two grenades and some explosives were found Friday near a building used by Muslim prisoners to pray, security sources said.

They said a Briton and two Palestinians, jailed for life for the killing of three Israelis aboard a yacht at Larnaca Marina last year, were suspected of being involved in what one source called

"possible armed escape attempt."

The sources said Cypriots may have been involved in help them.

Police made extensive checks the prison after a Cypriot man trial for the murder of his wife boasted in court that he co escape from Nicosia prison, was found to be carrying a knife.

The Larnaca Mari commandos, Ian Davison, Elias Naseef, 23, and Usan Mohammad Ali Toukha, rejected any rescue bids in statement released from prison September.

The statement refuted hijackings and kidnappings that have been carried out by them.

24 U.S. embassy officials evacuated from Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — The United States has evacuated 24 members of its already scaled-down embassy in Beirut, officials said Saturday.

"It's merely a precaution. They have been flown to Cyprus by U.S. army helicopters and will remain there for two or three weeks."

"We're not closing down the embassy. The ambassador is still here," said an official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In announcing the pullout of U.S. personnel from the embassy in Beirut, the State Department cited "security reasons" but refused to elaborate.

However, Lebanese army officers who spoke on condition of anonymity said the move followed U.S. support for Britain's break in diplomatic relations with Syria.

British authorities accused of sponsoring an attempted bombing of an Israeli jetliner with 357 passengers aboard, and the Reagan administration withdrew its ambassador to Syria in protest.

U.S. officials refused to reveal the number of the evacuees. But senior Lebanese army officers in constant touch with the embassy said as many as 24 embassy members have been flown out in an all-night airlift a week ago.

"Helicopters have been coming and going nightly, mainly to pick up things for the evacuees," the embassy official said.

Terrence McNamara, a senior embassy officer, and his secretary, as well as the military attaché, were still answering telephones at the embassy along with Ambassador John Kelly and his secretary.

The U.S. State Department had said the reduction of the embassy staff was completed last Saturday. But an administration official who requested anonymity told the Associated Press in Washington that army Blackhawk helicopters based in Cyprus had continued to fly several night-time missions during the past week.

Priest vows to continue search for Israeli scientist

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — An Anglican priest has vowed to keep searching for an Israeli friend who vanished after divulging what he said was his homeland's capacity for waging nuclear war.

"I won't give up," the Rev. John McKnight told the Associated Press Saturday when he returned home from a weeklong trip to Israel.

He said Israeli officials had refused to answer his questions about Mordechai Vanunu, 32, a former technician at Israel's nuclear reactor in the Negev Desert.

Vanunu told the Sunday Times of London the reactor concealed a nuclear weapons plant. He provided the newspaper with photographs he said he took with a camera smuggled into the facility.

McKnight said he thinks Australia's intelligence agency might have helped the Israeli Mossad secret service agents kidnap Vanunu from England a month ago.

"I've got a lot of questions but no evidence," he said. "One of the questions that needs to be answered is: Did they tip off the Israelis? I'm trying to work out how Mossad knew the date he was leaving Australia for London."

The priest said his friend was imprisoned in Israel and feared he might be tried in secret.

McKnight said he last spoke to his friend by telephone on Sept. 30, a day before Vanunu disappeared. He said Vanunu checked out of his London hotel four days before the Times story was published on Oct. 5.

McKnight said Vanunu told the hotel staff he was going to the country for a couple of days but that he has not been seen in England since then.

The priest said confidential sources told him Vanunu is now jailed either in Gederah, just south of Tel Aviv, or in Haifa. McKnight said he was also told that Vanunu appeared before Judge Aharon Simcha on Oct. 20 and had been remanded for 15 days.

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PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
16:00 Cartoons
16:10 Health Clinic
16:30 Children programs
17:10 Sift
17:20 Computer
17:45 Local Agricultural programme
18:20 Local series
19:20 Local programme
19:50 Programme review
20:20 News in Arabic
20:40 Iran Newsletter
20:45 Arabic series
21:30 Local programme
21:55 Tomorrow's programme
22:00 Local variety programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:15 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Le Village dans les nuages
18:30 Café
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Carol Bennett Show
21:10 Cosmos
22:00 News in English
22:30 Dallas

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:15 Pop Session
11:00 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session Contd.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumental
14:15 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Listeners' Choice
17:30 News Summary
18:00 Jazz Hour
18:05 Newsweek
19:00 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show Contd.
21:25 News Summary
21:50 Evening Show Contd.
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Headline
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
6.30, 7.20, 12.13 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Juke Box Dury
06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial Review 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 Lyrics and Lyrics 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Jazz for the Aspiring 08:30 News 08:39 24 Hours News Summary 09:30 From Our Own Correspondent 09:50 Waveguide 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure of Young 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Islamic Fundamentals 12:00 News Summary: Short Story 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:00 Focus Sunday Morning at 08:15, 17:00 News 17:10 News Horizons and News Summary: King Canute 14:30 Growing Points in Science 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Sports Round-up 15:45 The Saudi News Request Show 16:30 The Betwined 17:00 Radio Newsweek 17:15 International Recital 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Village of Death 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:09 Reflections 19:15 Meridian 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Just a Minute 21:00 News Summary: Classical Record Review

VOICE OF AMERICA
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06:00 News. Informal Presentation of Popular Music with Feature Reports. Interviews, Answers to Listeners' Questions, Science Reports. Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour. Instrumental. News at 10:00. News at 11:00. News at 12:00. News at 13:00. News at 14:00. News at 15:00. News at 16:00. News at 17:00. News at 18:00. News at 19:00. News at 20:00. News at 21:00. News at 22:00. News at 23:00. News at 24:00. News at 25:00. News at 26:00. News at 27:00. News at 28:00. News at 29:00. News at 30:00. News at 31:00. News at 32:00. News at 33:00. News at 34:00. News at 35:00. News at 36:00. News at 37:00. News at 38:00. News at 39:00. News at 40:00. News at 41:00. News at 42:00. News at 43:00. News at 44:00. News at 45:00. News at 46:00. News at 47:00. News at 48:00. News at 49:00. News at 50:00. News at 51:00. News at 52:00. News at 53:00. News at 54:00. News at 55:00. News

NEWS IN BRIEF

Conference on computers opens today

AMMAN (Petra) — A four-day national conference on computers opens at the University of Jordan today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The participants, representing ministers, government departments, the public sector and the armed forces, will discuss 11 working papers on computers and their employment in communications, education and business. The conference has been organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in cooperation with the University of Jordan and the national committee on science and technology.

Ramtha recruits end People's Army course

IRBID (Petra) — A new batch of People's Army recruits in Ramtha district graduated on Saturday at the end of their six-week training course. The training was in the use of light arms and civil defence operations. The graduates are all secondary school students from Ramtha district. In speeches at the ceremony, they were urged to shoulder their task and help the Armed Forces in the defence of the nation.

Zarqa's charity drive concludes today

ZARQA (Petra) — A wide-ranging campaign to raise money for charities in Zarqa Governorate ends today and volunteer teams have been asked by Zarqa's Acting Governor Mohammad Daba'i to hand over the contributions to the accredited bank in Zarqa. The contributions were collected by teams representing merchants, banks, students and various sectors of the public and will be distributed to 32 charitable and voluntary societies in the governorate, according to Mr. Daba'i. He said that the week-long campaign has gone well but he could not disclose the amount collected. Sermons during Friday prayers urged the public to support the campaign which is designed to extend help to needy families in the governorate.

CAEU to discuss regional economics

AMMAN (Petra) — Israel's economic policies in the occupied Arab territory and their adverse effects on the economies of the Arab region will be among the topics to be discussed by the Council of Arab Economic University (CAEU) during a meeting opening here on Wednesday. The five-day meeting, to be attended by undersecretaries of ministries of economy in member states, will review these points and others contained in a report to be submitted to the meeting by the CAEU secretary general. Also on the agenda are the current economic and trade relations in the Arab World and problems and difficulties impeding the work of the Arab Common Market.

Clergy mark Pope's enthronement

AMMAN (J.T.) — A reception was held on Saturday evening at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Amman on the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the enthronement of His Holiness Pope John Paul II. The reception was hosted by the Apostolic delegate to Jordan Archbishop Carlo Curis.

Shuneh launches cleanliness campaign

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) — A cleanliness campaign is underway in the Jordan Valley town of South Shuneh. Shuneh Mayor Abdul Iah Al Udwan urged the local inhabitants to cooperate with the municipality in spraying insecticides and cleaning squares and streets. He said that the week-long campaign is coupled with a public awareness campaign, which will explain the importance of cleanliness to prevent the spread of disease.

Queen Noor inaugurates exhibition of paintings depicting diversity and beauty of Jordan's landscapes

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

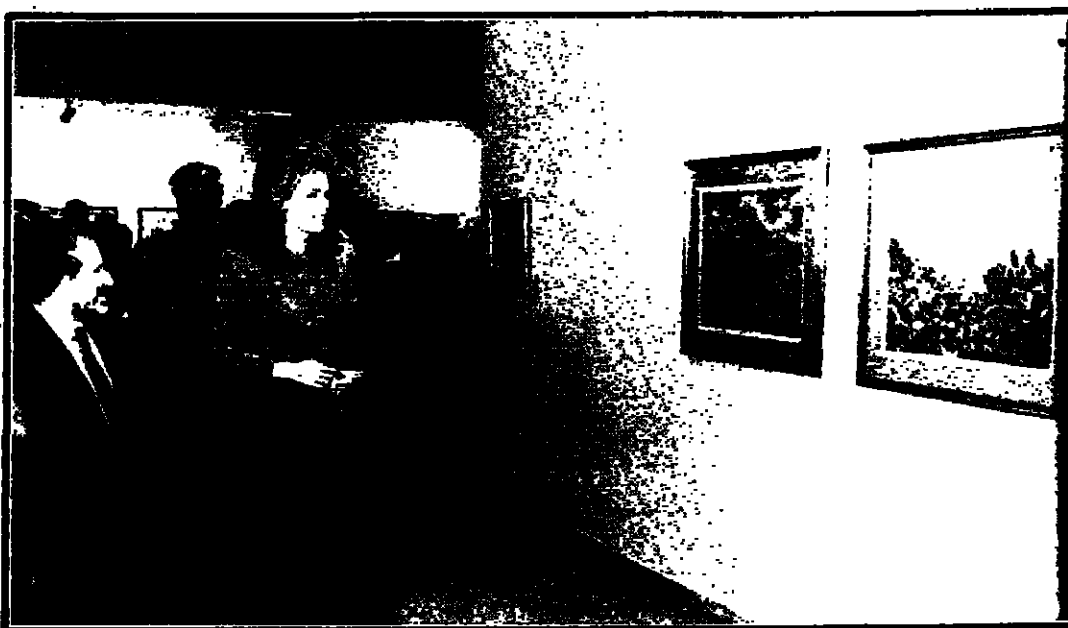
AMMAN — The exhibition of paintings by the British artist Nicholas Egon, which was opened by Her Majesty Queen Noor at the Jordan National Gallery on Saturday evening, is an inspiring collection that has captured, like very few others, a real feeling of the country in all its diversity. In watercolours and pastels Egon conveys, seemingly effortlessly, the corners and vistas of Petra that give — more than its towering monuments — the place its atmosphere, the green hills and valleys of Dibbin, Jerash and Ajloun and the flowers and grasses that cloth the ground in Spring time. Exceptionally well composed, beautifully and painstakingly executed the paintings are further united by the sense of affection and understanding each and every one conveys.

ART REVIEW

And it is this very deep and real understanding of the country that marks Egon's work apart. Jordan is not a country that you can understand in a few short weeks or even months. It takes years for an outsider to really get to know it, to first accept, then become familiar and finally fall in love with its stark scenery and its tremendous and endless subtleties. Since David Roberts and Edward Lear came to Jordan in the 19th Century, virtually no other artist has been able to capture faithfully the colour of the country. Coming with a fixed set of ideas and colours appropriate to their own environment, these artists, although genuine in their desire to paint what they see, are rarely able to do so. Egon however is the exception that proves the rule and thus it is a pleasure to see his work, with its accurate and extremely sensitive and subtle colours which reflect the artists long and close association with the area.

Shades of the earth

But it is not just the colours that make this exhibition special, it is also the technique the artist has employed. Using natural shades and dyes, the artist grinds them down to achieve the spectrum of soft earth colours he uses as the base of his paintings. Almost impossible to describe, these rich plumy browns, pale pinks and purples, glowing siennas and ochres, fade imperceptibly, layer upon transparent layer to indicate a patch of shade found in a rocky



Her Majesty Queen Noor on Saturday evening inaugurates a painting exhibition by British artist Nicholas Egon at the Jordan National Gallery. The exhibition is sponsored by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the Royal Society of Fine Arts and Mr. Egon has donated these paintings to the Noor Al Hussein Foundation for the benefit of its educational, cultural and development projects

overhang or the haze of distant hills. On top of these, Egon then adds a myriad of tiny pastel lines that dance and weave together to produce from far the texture, details and highlights of the scene but which close up make a tremendously exciting abstract design. Terra-cottas, lemon yellows, turquoises, midnight blues and khaki greens swirl together in a never repeating pattern and rhythm that vividly stir the imagination.

Thus Egon abandons more usual techniques of lighting and shade — repetitious cross hatching or blocks of colour — and in doing so manages to give each small part of his paintings the ability to be a painting in its own right. Egon's work therefore appeals on many levels for they are both realistic and abstract, both traditional and modern, both similar and profoundly different from the work of Lear and Roberts.

Rocks and stones

What Egon has chosen to paint is also worthy of comment. Not for him the immediately striking monumental architecture of Petra, but rather its crumbling doorways its dark forbidding caves, its lonely stairways that seemingly lead from nowhere to nowhere, its huge catpops of stone and the plummeting depths of its hidden wadis. It is these the paintings devote solely to the depiction of rocks and stones, that

are amongst the best of the whole exhibition. Subjectless, random and almost monotonous these moonlike landscapes are extremely difficult to capture, yet Egon has captured them in all their stark and compelling beauty. He has caught the heat, the bright, white, bleaching light the blue haze of the shimmering distance, the dry twigs of the tiny shrubs that sprout up against all odds. He has confined the endlessness of these landscapes, tamed their haphazardness while never losing their depth, their scale, their sense of space. Egon has caught their drama, but like a good actor has underplayed it thus achieving a more striking and memorable image.

Although it is obviously the

desert that attracts Egon, he has not forgotten that Jordan can be lushly green. He has conveyed the emerald green fullness of the prickly pear, the pure ultramarine of the Alkanet as it sprawls over the earth and the delicate glimmering pink of the rock roses, the only thing in focus in a hazy background.

The result of two and a half years of intensive work, this exceptional collection of paintings which have been reproduced in a ravishing book, is a remarkable achievement which speaks of integrity, commitment, creativity and outstanding talent and as such it should not be missed.

The exhibition runs until November 10.



Renaissance tomb, Petra (Painting by Nicholas Egon)

Jordanian goods go on display at Baghdad fair

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Baghdad International Fair opened on Saturday with the participation of 55 countries and 1,500 companies. Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, deputising for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, opened the international fair and in his address stressed the great importance of the fair in bolstering and strengthening economic and trade relations among world countries.

The opening ceremony was attended by Arab industry ministers, as well as members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps in Baghdad. Ministry of Industry and Trade Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf and Jordanian Ambassador in Baghdad Saleh Al Kabarti also attended the fair's inauguration ceremony.

Mr. Saqqaf later formally opened the Jordanian pavilion at the Baghdad International Fair. A total of 186 Jordanian companies are displaying their products at this fair. Among the products on display are phosphates, potash, cement, glass, pottery, sweets, tomato paste, chemical detergents, solar heaters, shoes and leather products, paints,

batteries, mineral oils and foodstuffs.

Joint industry company

Mr. Saqqaf has also been attending meetings of the Jordanian-Iraqi industry company general assembly chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and his Iraqi counterpart Tareq Hamad Al Abdullah.

The meetings reviewed the company's achievements over the past nine months and endorsed principles to be adopted in selling and purchasing operations in the Iraqi and Jordanian markets, according to Mr. Saqqaf. He said that the principles stipulate that Iraq and Jordan should provide foreign currency for conducting purchasing and selling operations and that both countries should provide complete protection for the company's products.

According to Mr. Saqqaf, the company is at present building a tomato processing plant in Jordan and a pickling factory in Iraq. He said that a special committee has been set up to undertake immediate measures to ensure that the joint company has full ownership of the two factories.

Arab doctors pledge medical assistance to Iraqi people

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day meeting of the Arab Doctors Union in Baghdad discussed solidarity with Iraq and issued a statement pledging all possible assistance and medical help to the Iraqi people. Dr. Hassan Khreis, president of the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) said here on Saturday.

Speaking upon his return from the Baghdad meeting, Dr. Khreis said that the participants in the meetings paid tribute to Iraq's endeavours in defending Arab land and repelling Iran's aggression. Dr. Khreis and his accompanying delegation attended the meeting of the union's solidarity committee with

Iraq and the union's follow up and planning committee.

The Arab Doctors Union, he said, denounced Iran's negative stand on peace initiatives and supported Iraq's call for an end to the conflict. The union, he added, will send messages to all Arab countries calling on them to give meaningful support and help Iraq in its war with Iran and to extend backing for Baghdad's efforts to bring about a peaceful settlement.

The two committees, Dr. Khreis continued, discussed organisational procedures pertaining to the union and general conferences for the coming year.

Amman to host conference on Afro-Asian rural affairs

AMMAN (Petra) — The Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AARRO) will hold its ninth conference in Amman in February 1987, Mr. Adib Burqan, director of the organisation's regional office in Amman, announced on Saturday.

Mr. Burqan said that the week-long conference will review a number of working papers dealing with the development of rural regions in Asia and Africa and the implementation of projects in the two continents over the past few years in addition to the AARRO's programmes for the coming three years. There will also be an election for the organisation's president and two vice presidents during the conference, Mr. Burqan added. He said that the participants will discuss the work and activities of

regional offices and will look into the prospect of opening offices in Addis Ababa and Ghana.

According to Mr. Burqan, AARRO was established at the end of the Second World War and its first conference was held in 1961 in India where the organisation now has its headquarters. The organisation, he continued, is aimed at reconstructing the economies of the rural peoples of Afro-Asian countries and at revitalising their social and cultural life. At present, the AARRO's membership groups 12 African and 14 Asian countries, including Jordan.

In September of this year, AARRO and Jordan signed an agreement for establishing the organisation's Near East regional office in Amman.

King opens new Parliament session

(Continued from page 1)

voices casting doubts on Jordan's intentions.

Opposition to the development plan, the King said, emanated from either those who found the occupation as a means for profiteering or those who found it easier to raise slogans than take action.

Expressing satisfaction with the progress of bilateral relations and cooperation between Jordan and other Arab countries, the King said, however, that strong bilateral relations were not a substitute for unified Arab action. He voiced hope that bilateral relations would develop in a manner conducive to joint Arab action and collective understanding leading to restoration of Arab solidarity.

Jordan continues to cooperate with Syria, Egypt and Iraq and deals with the three countries on a bilateral basis, the King said. He reaffirmed Jordan's firm stand behind Iraq in the six-year-old Gulf war and efforts towards finding a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Threats stemming from the continuing Gulf war are not limited to Iraq but also extend to the Arab Nation as a whole, the King warned, saying that lack of Arab solidarity and understanding were behind the reasons for the threat against the Arab Order which was fought for and founded by the forefathers of the Arab Nation at the turn of the 20th century. "Protecting the Arab Order necessitates the preservation of Arab virtues and values," he said.

The King strongly condemned demagoguery and terrorism saying they were alien to Arab values and culture and reflected negatively on Arab principles. He said that demagoguery could never be the basis for real nationalism and terrorism could not be the basis for legitimate struggle, and described terrorism as a form of cowardice and helplessness.

Although Jordan remains committed to its goals to achieve the unity of the Arab World, it strongly condemns terrorism irrespective of sources, the King said.

In the first half of his speech, the King dealt at length with the achievement of the Jordanian government in various fields and

its continuing efforts to achieve further progress and development for the Jordanian citizen.

Located on the longest confrontation line with Israel, Jordan is responsible for not only defending itself but also the Arab Nation from Israeli aggression, the King said.

In order to achieve this goal the Jordanian government has always sought to strengthen its Armed Forces which represent the unity and cohesion of the Jordanian society, he added. The King said the government would continue to maintain the Armed Forces' strength and provide them with the most advanced equipment from all available sources. He said that the government was also moving rapidly in training the People's Army.

Maintaining the country's national security remains the top priority for the government, the King said, adding that the government would remain committed to responsible freedom of expression and press as long as these did not threaten national security.

The King pledged that the government would continue to exert efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation between the public and private sectors and broaden the

participation of the private sector in national development.

The King outlined five goals of the government in its efforts towards achieving economic growth in real terms:

— Increasing agricultural production to allow for a greater level of food security.

— Enhancing protection for local industries, expanding the country's industrial base through industrial zones and avoiding dumping of goods in the market.

— Continued attention on the tourism sector.

— Enlarged transportation links among the country's various regions.

— Special attention to reviving the construction sector.

The King pointed out that the five-year plan had given high priority to eradicating unemployment through creating increased job opportunities.

The King said the government was committed to maintaining the independence of the judiciary and announced that the government had drafted a proposal for a new supreme court independent of the Court of Cassation. A proposal for a Jordanian judicial institute to provide the judicial body with qualified personnel has also been drafted, the King said.

Syria 'exerting all efforts to free hostages'

(Continued from page 1)

terrorism," Mr. Shultz said.

He was responding to audience questions after a speech to the Los Angeles World Affairs Council that was relayed to the State Department in Washington.

Mr. Shultz said Paul Bremer,

head of the State Department's counter-terrorism office, was in Europe consulting with Britain and other U.S. allies.

Britain won only limited backing from the European Community (EC) earlier this week in its bid for concerted European moves against Syria.

Fayez reelected House speaker

(Continued from page 1)

elections with an easy majority of 42 votes out of 55. Thirteen deputies abstained from last year's election in which Mr. Fayez was the only contender.

"Last year's 13 absentees gave their vote this year to Mr. Shbeilat," commented a seasoned deputy.

After the formal announcement of Saturday's election result by Mr. Shraideh, Mr. Fayez occupied the speaker's seat and wielded the bell.

Unlike the previous three ordinary sessions of the House, the election of two deputies to Mr. Fayez and two assistant speakers was preceded by a heated debate over whether or not these seats should be filled by secret balloting or by a show of hands.

Deputy Mohammad Al Thwaib nominated Ismail Hijazi and Salman Qudah — two deputies who have held the post of first and second deputy speakers since 1984 — for the same respective positions.

Mohammad Al Haj Abdullah nominated Deputy Mufeed Al Mubaslat.

"Since we have been unable to change the speaker: during the House' consecutive sessions, why

not try to change the House' permanent council?" Mr. Haj Abdullah asked.

Nablious Deputy Mubaslat, reinforcing Mr. Abdullah's recommendation, said he had withdrawn his nomination to the position of first deputy speaker during last year's election, but that he would be glad to contest this year's election.

Following these comments, the House was split into two blocks; those who wanted the open election of the first and second deputy speakers and those who preferred it to be carried out through secret balloting.

A compromise was reached among deputies that the first deputy speaker be elected secretly, while the second position was filled by a show of hands.

Mr. Hijazi won the race over Mr. Mubaslat with a 41-14 vote out of 57 deputies present. Three deputies were not available to vote since they left the hall before the election of the first and second deputies started, apparently assuming that Mr. Hijazi and Mr. Qudah would be reelected.

Mr. Qudah won the post of second deputy speaker in a show of hands vote that followed.

Mr. Fayez decided to hold the election of the first and second



Akel Al Fayez

assistants to the speaker during the House' next session.

The House also nominated deputies to form the committee entrusted with drafting the House' reply to His Majesty King Hussein's speech from the throne opening the session of Parliament earlier in the day.

The committee comprises deputies Edward Khamis, Mr. Gammo, Mr. Qudah, Mr. Batayneh, Mr. Thwaib, Mr. Maher Irshaid, Mr. Obeidat, Mr. Maarouf Rabbah and Mr. Fouad Faraj.

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 Subscription and advertising rates: On application.
 The Jordan Times Press is a member of the Arab Press Syndicate.

Speech from the throne

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's speech from the throne to the fourth session of Parliament heralds yet another era in the political life of our country. There usually is something new to discuss and debate each time Parliament convenes for a session, and it is these discussions and debates that enrich our political life and enhance our institutions.

In his address yesterday, His Majesty touched upon a wide range of national, regional and international issues. The speech also extensively covered the subject of the prospects of peace in our region, fully explaining Jordan's position at every turn and each stage. It was a successful exercise in breathing new and fresh air into the political and socio-economic life of Jordanians, and as such the King's words have been received and appreciated by the citizens of this country. On such occasions, the speech from the throne is tantamount to a beginning of a general dialogue between the government and the people over the issues dealt with in the address. It is therefore our hope that the Royal speech will herald a responsible and open discussion of its contents by the people of Jordan as well as by the Jordanian institutions, private as well as public. Such a responsible and serious discussion and debate would make sure that the ideas of His Majesty would soak in the Jordanian political and socio-economic psyche in the most profound and correct manner possible. As we study and analyse the issues raised in the speech, and the ideas and principles it contained, we seize this opportunity to express the hope that the Jordanian parliamentary system would further develop and strengthen under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein so as to reflect better the aspirations and thoughts of all Jordanians.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan committed to pan-Arabism

PRIME Minister Zaid Rifai spoke openly and frankly to "Al Tadamon" magazine outlining Jordan's policies on the domestic and pan-Arab fronts. He said that Jordan remains committed to pan-Arab causes and regards the Gulf war as dangerous to all Arab states. On Palestine, he said that the Jordanian and Palestinian roles complement each other and that Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) remains unchanged. Jordan, he explained, considers the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and cannot substitute for the organisation in this respect. But, he said, Jordan will not relax its support or assistance for the Arab inhabitants in the occupied Arab territory, and will continue to extend help to the Palestinian people despite a halt in the work of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee which lacks funds. Jordan, he added, will continue to extend support for the Arab inhabitants to enhance their steadfastness in the face of Israel's measures. On the domestic front, Mr. Rifai said that the Jordanian economy is sound and safe, and it is a source of pride for all Arab investment in Jordanian projects, he added, is the right of all non-Jordanian Arabs on equal footing with Jordanians. The prime minister reaffirmed that Jordan was committed to the wise policies of His Majesty King Hussein, and the government is bound to implement them to safeguard the higher interests of the Jordanian people.

Al Dustour: Rifai outlines Jordan's policy

THE London-based Al Tadamon Arabic weekly published an interview with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in which he spoke openly and frankly about Jordan's stands and foreign and domestic policies. At the same time he outlined Jordan's relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and also Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the Gulf war and the situation in Lebanon. The prime minister made it clear that Jordan faces financial difficulties due to the enormous national commitments imposed on it mainly in the form of military expenditure made necessary in view of the country's constant confrontation with the Israeli enemy. Referring to the five year development plan for the occupied West Bank, the prime minister said that since 1967 the Jordanian government has been extending support for the Palestinian people under Israeli rule, directly to the various organisations, municipalities and other organisations, or indirectly through salaries paid to government employees and also assistance funnelled through the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee. He said that Jordan was thankful to Saudi Arabia for honouring its financial commitment to Jordan over the years in implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions. The prime minister said that Jordan's differences with the PLO leadership does not reflect in any form on its relations with the Palestinian people, and Jordan still considers the PLO as a legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Sawt Al Shaab: King addresses nation

TODAY King Hussein addresses the nation at the opening of the Parliament's ordinary session. On all such occasions and previous addresses King Hussein has been on reaffirming Jordan's policies and the country's national commitments. As a responsible leader who realises all dimensions of Jordan's requirements and role, and the region's developments, King Hussein will speak out, reaffirming his keenness on safeguarding the interests of his people and nation. King Hussein's address, like all others before it, acquires a significant position in the hearts and the minds of the Jordanian people. The speech from the throne which is an annual occasion is a true exercise of democracy practised in Parliament and directed to the representatives of the nation. What the nation is going to hear is of concern to all the Arab masses because the monarch bases Jordan's policies on the principles of the Great Arab Revolt which broke out at the turn of the century to benefit all Arabs. He will reiterate Jordan's pan-Arab commitments and will tackle all issues of concern to this nation.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Process of privatisation: The steps before and after

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

DENATIONALISATION, or converting public sector corporations into shareholding companies, should be the last stage in the process of privatisation. Another step that should precede privatisation, to make it meaningful, is the deregulation of interest, prices, rents, etc. Entry to and exit from the market should also become free or less cumbersome.

It is evident that the Jordanian economy is over-regulated. Interest rates and exchange rates are artificially and rigidly fixed by the monetary authority.

The Ministry of Supplies works overtime to fix and inspect prices of goods and services and to block market forces. The prices of no less than 70 per cent of goods and services, that change hand in the market, are fixed, even when at this time, inflation is running at zero rate. Rents are not negotiable even after the term of lease expires. Licensing is left to the whim of the officials at the time.

If the public sector wants to withdraw from certain activities, then the simple logic dictates that the government should not continue to be involved in running hotels, newspapers, clothing factories, importation of meat, rice, wheat, sugar, cigarettes and milk. Instead, the Telecommunication Corporation is being chosen for a start to make Jordan the fourth country in the world to privatise telecommunication after the U.S., U.K., and Japan.

We are not against privatisation, provided that we do not start from the last stage backward. Unfortunately the approach is such that the Jordanian public opinion became solidly and unmistakably against privatisation. People are worried that the Treasury may get deprived of an important source of income which could mean the

imposition of higher taxes and fees to compensate for the loss of revenue.

People are afraid that the prices of basic services provided — at the moment — by the public sector might rise in order to secure a higher return for the new private owners and managers. They suspect that the new shareholding companies might not be interested in extending their services to areas of the country where return on investment is low. Some people are worried over the possibility of those companies becoming dominated by non-Jordanians, who would care less about the country's national interest.

Other people are worried about the possibility of ownership and financial power becoming concentrated in a handful of individuals, who will exploit the people for their own interest.

These reservations and objections are legitimate and should be addressed in a democratic, honest and scientific manner. The policy of privatisation will not succeed unless and until the majority of the people is convinced and ready to support it.

Of course the most significant advantage claimed by the school of privatisation is the efficiency of the private sector's management in comparison to the inefficiency of the public sector's bureaucracy. However, a high ranking official who, until recently, was a prominent businessman, refuted that claim, in a public seminar. He observed that some 38 companies in the private sector were in financial trouble due mainly to bad management; and that large-scale industries were only put on the right track when the public sector took over. This point of view, though arguable, has negated the only accepted advantage of privatisation, and accordingly weakened its case.

Other advantages are either inapplicable to Jordan, or no more than value judgments. There is no positive proof that privatisation would encourage savings and investments, because it does not create new investments. The benefits of competition in a free market are not applicable, because all public corporations will enjoy a monopoly of the local market. Commercial accounting and accuracy in determining costs are also equally possible under public sector control. The capital revenue to the Treasury, resulting from sales of assets, will be a one-time receipt and not a sustainable flow of income.

On the other hand we are told that profitable corporations will not be transferred to the private sector, because the Treasury does not want to sacrifice its secure sources of revenue. Losing corporations, on the other hand, will not be transferred to the private sector because investors are not interested.

Finally, in another decision the government called for converting certain corporations into shareholding companies that are 100 per cent owned by the public sector. Such a step is being welcomed by many who see it as an administrative reform measure that will improve efficiency and secure more flexibility. But such a step, of course, does not fall under the definition of privatisation.

We believe that privatisation in Jordan has a case, which can be properly defended, and may gain the support of public opinion provided we have a good sense of timing, priorities and better communication with the people — being the ultimate aim and the instrument of any policy.

The Balfour Declaration revisited: One nation promised to a second nation the country of a third

By Dr. Mohammed S. Dajani and Dr. Munther S. Dajani

The writers are authors of several books on Middle East politics and economics. Dr. Mohammad Dajani is executive director of Jordan radiators manufacturing company. Dr. Munther Dajani teaches political science at the University of Jordan. They contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

TILL this very day, political scientists are still speculating as to the reasons why Britain issued the Balfour Declaration on November 2, 1917. Many writers have tried to search for the causes of this declaration, but the motives of Lloyd George's coalition government in taking upon itself such a commitment to the Zionist movement at the expense of their Arab allies, and what induced the British government eventually to promulgate the declaration, are still questions obscured, whether deliberately or unintentionally, by a smokescreen of legend and propaganda. So far, it is doubtful whether there exists any scholar or statesman who fully knows why the Balfour Declaration was issued. Leonard Stein, the well-known Zionist historian of the Balfour Declaration, devoted years of his life to study its origins and motivations, but at the end of his lengthy book, the reader is left without a precise answer as to why the British government authorised Lord Balfour, the British Foreign Minister to write to Lord Rothschild, a private citizen, as he did in spite of the innumerable reasons given or those attributed to the British government. In *Crossroads to Israel* (1967), Christopher Sykes concludes: "Many reasons have been deduced, too many to allow belief in any single clear one." Yet, if

one examines all the facts closely, one motive stands out: Britain's need to safeguard its imperialist interests and protect its colonial dominions.

The fear of German Zionism, the desire to detach Russian Jews from the Bolshevik revolution, and the need to rally the support of American Jewry to its cause had an impact, but they do not account for the decision of the British government. These were transitory impulses that were washed away the minute the war was over.

Professor J.L. Talmon's view expressed in *Israel Among the Nations* (1970) that the "group of men who issued the declaration did not know what they were doing," is ruled out as historical data show that no handful of words in modern history had been more thoroughly checked and carefully examined.

One should not accept at face value the argument expressed by David Ben-Gurion in his memoirs, *Israel: Years of Challenge* (1963) that "the attainment of this declaration must be credited, in major part, to the political efforts of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, later the first president of Israel, who in 1917 already held a leading place in Zionist affairs, and a chemist, had rendered significant service to the British war effort. Had this

been the case, and had one single foreigner been capable of exerting such influence on the foreign policy of an old parliamentary system like Britain, the world would have looked much different today.

Furthermore, there is no solid foundation for the claim proposed by Robert Silverberg in *If I Forget Thee, O Jerusalem* (1970) that "the real genesis of the declaration probably lay in the sincere conviction of Balfour, Lloyd George, and the other British leaders that it was an act of moral grandeur to provide a homeland for the Jews." This is an anachronistic judgment of an era in which policymakers were sacrificing thousands of human lives to increase their dominions by hundreds of yards; an era in which secret diplomacy flourished and intrigue was the work of the day. Balfour himself has been described by Christopher Sykes in *Crossroads to Israel* (1967) as a "hard and ruthless politician."

The impressive personality and scientific ability of Dr. Chaim Weizmann could have been a great asset to him in propagating his cause. Deep religious convictions, personal sympathies, or idealistic motivations may have been elements within the characters of the main British policymakers. However, one thing is definite: these elements could have worked as catalysts to speed up the process, but they were not substantive ingredients in themselves. One cannot deny that there might have been within the British government a strong

undercurrent of sympathy towards the Zionist cause, but, as Isaiah Friedman states in *The Question of Palestine* (1973), the official records show that sentiment does not determine state policy. "The Declaration would hardly have been made unless it had been the considered judgment of the Foreign Office and the War Cabinet that it was clearly in the British interest to do so. A combination of motives rather than one, led to the final decision, but what dominated was the desire for security."

In fact, the Balfour Declaration was not the result of the effort of one, two or even three men, but rather the final product of the huge and complex political machinery of the British system involving hundreds of people, in which outside advice and comments found attentive ears. Even the share attributed to Balfour, in whose name the declaration was issued, has been exaggerated as he had no hand in its drafting.

The declaration should be seen as an imperial power's attempt to project its vital interests in a global confrontation. As many official records show, the idea that Palestine might fall into enemy hands plagued the British foreign-policy makers, who could not even tolerate the idea that Palestine might fall into the friendly hands of its allies: France, Italy or the United States.

To Britain, acquisition of Palestine was a non-negotiable strategic necessity. Palestine was so essential to its imperial designs

that London was ready to make a number of contradictory commitments, in secret and in public, to five different parties in regard to the same piece of land within a period of less than four years. The first was to Sharif Hussein of Mecca in the autumn of 1915 through Sir Henry McMahon, High Commissioner in Egypt, promising "to recognise and uphold the independence of the Arabs in all the regions lying within the frontiers proposed," which included Palestine. The second was in 1916, to the French in the Sykes-Picot Agreement, in which northern Palestine was to come under French rule while the rest would be internationalised. The third was in 1917 to the Zionist Federation, through Lord Rothschild, promising them the establishment of a "Jewish Home" in Palestine. The fourth, to the U.S. government when it accepted President Wilson's Fourteen Points as the basis of the forthcoming peace settlement.

(Two of the threefold and interlocking concepts constituting Wilson's Fourteen Points principle were the liberation of people and justice to friend and enemy alike.) The fifth was in the Anglo-French Declaration of November 1918, in which the Allies assured the people of the three countries (Syria, Palestine, and Iraq) that the purpose of Allied policy was "the setting up of national governments and administrations that shall derive their authority from the free exercise of the initiative and choice of the indigenous

population." Although Britain was the mouthpiece for the declaration, it had been granted with the knowledge and approval of the Allies. France formally associated itself with the declaration in 1918, and Italy in 1919. On April 24, 1920, the Supreme Council of the Allies at San Remo confirmed it. Later, it was to find its way into the text of the League of Nations Mandate. Britain obtained the support of the United States for the declaration before it formally committed itself.

Thus, in a 117-word note, as the well-known Jewish scholar Arthur Koestler observed in *Promise and Fulfilment* (1949): "One nation solemnly promised to a second nation the country of a third. No second thoughts can diminish the originality of this procedure. The Arabs had been living there for centuries, and the country was no doubt theirs in the generally accepted sense of the word."

Probably no other scrap of paper in recent history had the effect of this brief letter, which caused a conflict that has lasted more than half a century and still shows no sign of settlement. To the Arabs, the declaration sowed the seeds of an injustice unique in political history and international law. Its importance in Arab history is profound. It led, by stages, to British dominance in Palestine from 1918 to 1947, to a partition of Syria, and ultimately to the loss of Palestine's Arab character and to the destruction of its population.

Israelis read the Palestinian point of view in Hebrew

By Dan Izenberg
The Associated Press

THE OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — A Palestinian lawyer has launched a Hebrew-language newspaper to tell Israelis how Arabs live under occupation. It favours the creation of a Palestinian homeland led by the PLO.

Ziyad Abu Ziyad said he started the 12-page tabloid "to try to explain our views to Israelis in their own language and to show them what is really happening in the occupied territories" of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

To underline the point, he called the bi-weekly publication "Geshet," Hebrew for bridge. "A newspaper in Hebrew may also show Israelis the human side of the Palestinian people and try to confront the stereotypes which Israelis have of Arabs," Abu Ziyad, 46, said in an interview.

Abu Ziyad said he pays about \$1,000 a month to publish the paper, which includes salaries for two staff members and several part-time reporters. The paper is sold at six Jewish outlets in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv for one shekel, or about 65 cents. About 300 readers, most of them Jews, have taken out subscriptions since the paper was launched in June.

Palestinians publish several daily and weekly Arab- and English-language newspapers supporting various factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Five of these papers are distributed in the West Bank as well as Israel.

Abu Ziyad said Geshet's circulation of 1,000 may sound small. "But for me it's encouraging because I started with a few hundred. I feel there is a growing interest."

The newspaper includes commentaries about political events in Israel and the Arab World. But most articles are about the lives of the 1.4 million Palestinians in the territories

occupied in the 1967 war. The newspaper reports about demonstrations, arrests and Palestinian arts.

Although all Israeli newspapers have reporters covering the West Bank and Gaza, Abu Ziyad believes their coverage lacks depth.

"For them the West Bank is something far away, something unimportant," he said.

Partly as a result, he added, Israelis are indifferent to the Palestinians and uninformed about the behaviour of the occupying army. Many Israelis know only of the army's version of events, said Abu Ziyad. "They say this is the truth instead of asking where the truth is," he said.

In his first editorial, Abu Ziyad wrote: "We demand that the rights of the Palestinian people be recognised, first of all its right to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state." He called for Jewish and Palestinian states to exist side by side "like good neighbours, in mutual respect."

But Ziyad made it clear that the Palestinian state should be led by the PLO. "I see myself as part of the Palestinian national movement," he said. "The PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinians."

Meiron Benvenisti, a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem and a long-time West Bank researcher, praised the effort to reach Jewish society but added that Abu Ziyad "is mainstream PLO and there is too much anti-Israeli antagonism in the paper for it to become widely read by Jews in Israel."

The editorials are the only items in the newspaper that are also published in Arabic. Abu Ziyad said this is so that Palestinians will see that he presents the same opinions to both Arabs and Jews. The paper has created a stir among Israelis, said Abu Ziyad, holding up a stack of letters.

Ben-Gurion legacy fading in Israel

By Jeffrey Heller
Reuters

TEL AVIV — David Ben-Gurion's name lives on at Tel Aviv's international airport and on main streets in most towns, but 100 years after his birth the political legacy of Israel's first prime minister seems to be fading.

He died 13 years ago and his birth centenary year — running from now until October, 1987 — is being marked by speech-making and ceremonies, including a state celebration in Jerusalem where organisers could not fill an 800-seat hall.

Just as his life ended in a political wilderness in the Negev desert, many of his ideas have failed to take root.

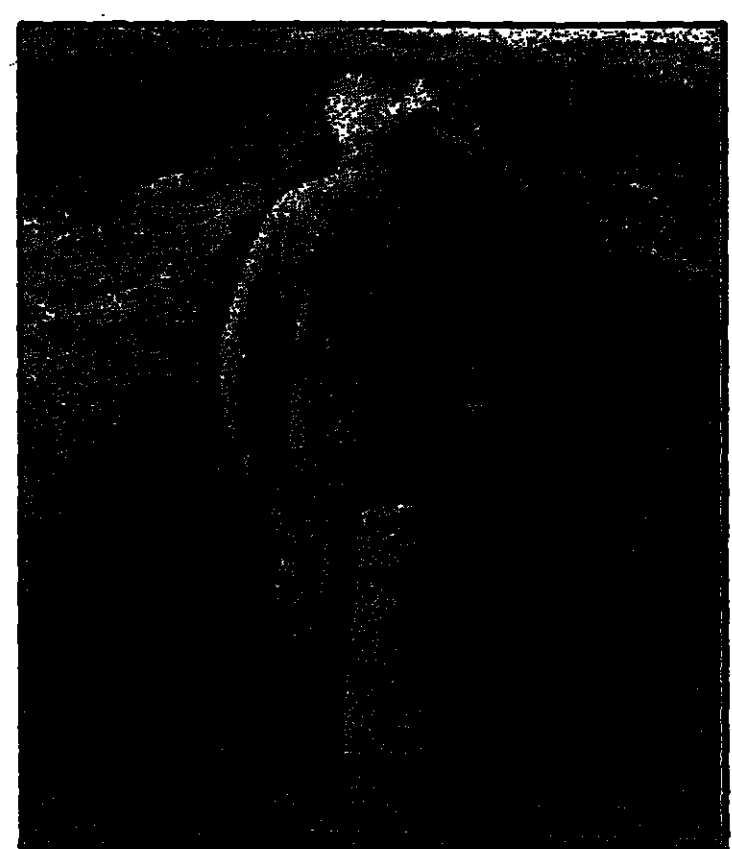
The week chosen to launch "Ben-Gurion centenary year" gave Israelis no respite from guerrilla attacks and domestic political infighting in which to wax nostalgic about the diminutive but tenacious white-haired leader who founded their state.

Tributes to Ben-Gurion's forceful leadership were overshadowed by a grenade attack near Jerusalem's Walling Wall, tension over Lebanon and bickering around a job swap in the prime minister's office between Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir.

Former Israeli president Yitzhak Navon, once Ben-Gurion's closest aide, recalled: "He said that Israel is a small country surrounded by Arabs. The only way we can survive is by being a model state... he always emphasised the moral aspect."

But Israel appears to be shifting away further and further from his vision of a socialist state with an austere pioneering spirit, ready to return captured Arab territory in exchange for peace.

Israel has moved to the right, opinion polls show. It has become more materialist and less collectivist, and the younger generations of Israelis seem



increasingly reluctant to consider handing back the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israeli politicians who worked under Ben-Gurion heaped praise on the strong-willed leader and thinker who studied Buddhism, practised yoga and read Plato in Greek.

But in the years since his death, the Labour Party he once led has ceased to be the natural party of government, and many Israelis now look to the right-wing Likud Bloc founded by Ben-Gurion's arch rival Menachem Begin for strong leadership.

Many Likud supporters are North African immigrants whom Ben-Gurion helped bring to the new state in the 1950s.

Born David Gruen in Plonsk, Poland in 1886, Ben-Gurion's Zionist views were shaped by his

father. Educated in modern Hebrew, he became a pioneer in Turkish-controlled Palestine in 1906, working in orange groves and wine cellars.

By 1910, he was a political activist, convinced that all Jews should settle the Biblical land of Israel.

He was deported by the Turks for his views and stayed for three years in the United States. In 1919, after Britain occupied Palestine, Ben-Gurion returned to become leader of Ahdut Ha'avoda (union of labour), a forerunner of today's Labour Party.

Sixteen years later, he was elected chairman of the Jewish Agency, de facto head of the Jewish settlement in Palestine. He led the fight against British organised illegal Jewish

emigration from Europe after a British ban in 1939 and authorised sabotage activities by the Hagana underground army.

But he fought against more hardline guerrilla organisations led by Begin and Shamir and cooperated with British authorities in trying to curtail their activities, a source of enduring bitterness among them.

On May 14, 1948, Ben-Gurion proclaimed the Jewish state, becoming prime minister and defence minister in the provisional government. In December 1949, he declared Jerusalem the capital of Israel, a decision most states still do not recognise.

As prime minister, he pressed for massive immigration of Jews from Arab countries despite opposition from some ministers who argued the new state did not have the resources to fulfill the biblical prophecy of "ingathering the exiles."

He also established diplomatic relations with West Germany, obtaining massive economic aid from Chancellor Konrad Adenauer over the objections of many Israelis who felt it was too soon after the Nazis' torture to forgive them.

In 1961, Ben-Gurion resigned in a scandal over an Israeli sabotage plot in Egypt. He returned to the premiership within seven months but his authority was never fully restored and in 1963 he quit finally and went into self-imposed exile at kibbutz Sde Boker in the Negev desert in the south. He was buried there in 1973.

After quitting the premiership for the last time, Ben-Gurion organised a few of his disciples in a breakaway faction of his Mapai Party. But his new Rafi Party failed to attract a wide following and in 1970, the "old man," as he was known with a mixture of affection and awe, resigned from parliament.

His twilight years were spent at Sde Boker, writing his memoirs laboriously by hand.

July 1975

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We will not allow stagnation to prevail, nor will we act unilaterally'

Our economic path, based on regulated freedom, private initiative and competition, is a sound one

The only effective answer to negativism is in moving and building together in all spheres

Bilateral Arab relations — positive as they may be — cannot be a substitute for collective Arab action

Supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinians is the only option available to us in the no-war, no-peace situation

We are witnessing appearances of perverted conduct emanating from demagoguery as well as disgraceful practices represented by terrorism

(Continued from page 5)

achieve the highest degree of adaptation in cases of sudden difficulties and to prepare a suitable atmosphere conducive to the resumption of the development effort.

Experience has evidently shown that our set economic path, based on regulated freedom, private initiative and competition, is the sound one, enlightening the road ahead in achieving our goals. Relying on the axioms and the basic pillars that gained us an unshakable long experience in the structure of our national economy, my government has taken a series of concerted decisions and measures to enhance our sound economic path.

Ever since my government assumed its responsibility, it has made large strides in strengthening the links between the private and public sectors. It has worked on deepening the role of the private sector in the development process. It also broadened its horizons on all possible aspects of investment, including the sharing of the ownership of some public sector institutions after they are converted into public companies, thereby increasing the opportunities of providing efficient services to the public with minimal bureaucracy. To provide a forum for dialogue and exchange of ideas among the private and public sectors, and to share in the economic decision-making process, the government has recently formed a new consultative economic council.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

Of the main issues of concern to my government today is one that deals with new forces in the labour market causing structural unemployment. These forces have arisen as a result of the excess in the rate of growth of the labour force over that of the rate of growth in the economy and the natural rate of population growth. This is in addition to the imbalance between the numbers of university and community college graduates, and the available job opportunities. Furthermore, certain job opportunities are no longer considered desirable. Unemployment would further rise as a result of adverse regional economic conditions. To deal with this situation effectively, my government has formed a ministerial committee encompassing relevant ministries and specialised departments to devise suitable proposals for providing new opportunities for job seekers among graduates.

The Five Year Development Plan has emphasised the efforts needed to reduce unemployment rates as much as possible through suitable preparation of newcomers to the labour market. At this juncture, reference should be made to the government's efforts in the area of vocational training. Eight new vocational training centres, with a capacity for three thousand trainees have already been established and more centres are to be opened, raising the total capacity to 5,000.

Fully aware of the situation of Jordanians working abroad, my government has accepted their requests and recommendations made during their two conferences. These include the extension of the Jordanian social security system to benefit those workers.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

The success of our services and our socio-economic projects largely depends upon the availability of sound administration, wise leadership and factual information, as well as giving greater importance to local government, decentralisation and field work. To this end, the government has reinstated the Royal Commission for Administrative Development. The commission has taken long strides in studying administrative departments and the legislation regulating their powers and responsibilities.

No doubt, municipalities have a central role to play in local government. A plan, to be implemented during the next five years, has already been formulated to enhance their functions, taking into account the marked increase in the demand for municipal services at a time when municipal revenues have been lower than expenditures. My government has sought to modify the municipalities law in an effort to face changing situations arising from duplication of responsibilities and from the expansion of municipal boundaries, especially those in the city of Amman. The intention now focuses on the establishment of the "Greater Amman Council" comprising the mayor of Amman and the mayors of surrounding cities to ensure union in planning, regulations, administration, supervision and the implementation of large joint projects. This is to be achieved within a transitory period after which the municipalities will return to perform their role in the approved decentralised framework.

The administrative reform process requires the installation of a national data bank equipped with a large computer, the establishment of a project and services follow-up department, and the training of managers capable of guaranteeing prompt, positive, results at minimal cost. This applies to both the public as well as to the private sectors.

Administrative reform is not an antidote imported from outside. Rather, it is a persistent effort shared by citizens and officials. It is our good fortune that decision-makers, in both the public and private sectors, belong to the same people and are the true believers in its goals and morals. They are at a high level of specialisation and expertise and are capable of raising the level of performance. There is no administrative system that does not allow for reform and innovation. Our goals will be to monitor performance and efficient service, to ensure integrity and accountability, and to place the right man in the right position.

We need an advanced system of information. In view of the importance of institutions of information, my government was careful to enhance the position of these institutions, to modernise their equipment and programmes as well as to train its personnel. The government started to implement a new comprehensive radio network to ensure world-wide transmission on different wavelengths.

In the field of the press, it has been reorganised on a wider basis from personal ownership, to public companies.

In this context, and in accordance with the Constitution, my government has emphasised its policy of guaranteeing the freedom of the press within the law. The freedom which we uphold and care for is the responsible freedom. It is the freedom which does not threaten the national security of the State, and which does not abort its policies in different spheres. It is the same freedom which the democratic world understands and appreciates, and to which some would like to refer every time the issue of freedom of expression is raised. Those seem to forget, or ignore, that press freedom in Western democracies has a limit which it does not exceed. It is the same limit which we always remind them of: that of national security and the ultimate national interest. It is natural that the conditions in each country determine the extent of that limit. Otherwise, freedom of expression becomes freedom to subvert. Responsibility gives way to irresponsibility, and diversity of opinion becomes a conflict in personal interests.

The freedom which we treasure and care for in Jordan is the freedom that stems from the people's feeling of their deep responsibility towards their country and nation. It also comes from



Her Majesty Queen Noor, accompanied by the wives of senior government officials and members of the diplomatic corps, attends the opening session of Parliament on Saturday (Petra photo)

the tradition of participation which we have deepened since assuming responsibility: by ensuring open doors between the people and the institutions, between one institution and another, and between members of the public and the institutions and myself. It is this tradition which we deeply respect and uphold. It is this tradition that allows us to always explain the guidelines of our policies and their aims to the people directly or through the professionals concerned with public affairs.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

The Palestinian issue is our main concern. It constitutes a part of us as we do a part of it. We and the Palestinian people share the same historical experience and will continue to do so, God willing, undaunted by sophistry and scepticism, until we liberate our occupied lands.

We, before anybody else and more than anybody else, face the tragedy and the repercussions of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In our effort to secure the end of this occupation, we do not seek to acquire personal gains or domination. To us, it is a national duty we shoulder in spite of the difficulties. To us, it is a national trust to which we are committed in spite of the burden. To us, it is a historical responsibility which we willingly accept in spite of its gravity. The rights of the Palestinian people are always present in our minds and conscience and the objective of saving the land and its shrines is embedded in our senses and hearts. A cause to which we are so attached must reflect on all aspects of our life, permeate the fabric of our planning and action and govern our Arab and international relations and policies.

When I addressed you last year at the opening of the concluded parliamentary session, we were in the midst of our political movement on the basis of the Feb. 11 accord and the Fez summit resolutions. We sought to articulate a concept for an international conference to be convened for peace in the Middle East. This movement continued within the Arab and international context until last February when the efforts of my government reached an impasse with the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation regarding Security Council Resolution 242 on which we both had agreed to adopt as the basis for convening the international conference. Since this position has led to the termination of an important and serious stage of the Jordanian-Palestinian political action, I sought to explain what had transpired and to define our position in this regard. I did so in my address to the nation on Feb. 19, last. In that address I presented a detailed account of what took place, giving a comprehensive analysis of the reality of the Palestinian issue, our view of its various dimensions, probable developments and our decision to end the co-ordination with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Naturally, our decision to suspend co-ordination with the PLO leadership does not affect our position regarding the PLO, the Palestinian institution which represents the Palestinian people. In addition, the decision does not affect our organic relationship with the Palestinian cause or our commitment to liberate the land and the people and to struggle for the restoration of their legitimate national rights.

Accordingly, my government continued the political and diplomatic movement in accordance with the constants governing our position regarding our action within the Palestinian context. To ward off suspicions that usually grow in an atmosphere of different interpretations and disagreements, I find it useful to reiterate these constants:

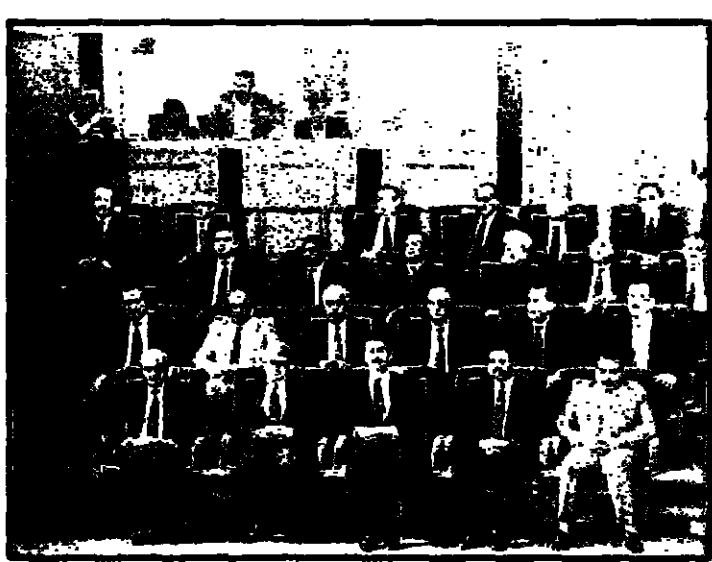
1. Jordan is not the representative for the Palestinian people and does not accept to be so.
2. Jordan is not, and will not, be the substitute for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.
3. Jordan is committed to the Arab summit resolutions, especially those of the Rabat and Fez summits of 1974 and 1982, respectively.
4. The way for a peaceful settlement lies in the convening of an international peace conference on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council, together with all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.
5. Jordan will continue to support the Palestinian people in the occupied territories by virtue of its direct link with the occupied Palestinian land and because of its national responsibility. This will be carried out within Jordan's means and in a manner which is not prejudicial to its national security, which constitutes an inseparable part of Arab national security.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

My government continued its political and diplomatic movement within the Arab and international contexts on the basis of those constants. This was in pursuit of the aim unanimously agreed on by our Arab Nation, namely, the attainment of a comprehensive, just and durable peace that guarantees the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories and guarantees the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. We will not allow stagnation to prevail, nor will we act unilaterally.

The next most dangerous situation to a status quo is the provision of the means to support it. Amongst such provisions is for a concerned party to take the position of an unconcerned spectator, indifferent to what takes place, confined to rhetoric and unable but to accept what the future will bring.

The only effective answer to such negativism is in moving and building together, moving on all fronts and building in all spheres. Political movement based on clarity of vision in differentiating



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament and members of the Cabinet listen to the King's address to the nation from the Parliament building in Amman (Petra photo)

between constants and variables, insures the ability to ascertain what takes place in this world. It is also the means to monitor changes and openings. It defines the possibility of benefiting from them and employing them to serve a purpose. Otherwise, opportunities are lost and the unacceptable status quo is strengthened. We should always remember that others act in accordance with this truism for they have their own interests to serve and their own concerns to look after. Unless we counter their actions the political equation between the parties will change to the advantage of the dynamic party at the expense of the static one. It is not acceptable to always be on the receiving end. One must take the initiative and develop it.

This is our conceptual understanding of the importance of political movement upon which my government has acted and will continue to act.

At the last session, my government acted on two fronts:

1. The first was aimed at mobilising the Arab and international effort to articulate a clear and unified understanding for convening an International Peace Conference for the Middle East, to be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council, together with all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.
2. The second was aimed at developing ways and means to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in its occupied Palestinian land.

My government was able on the first front to revive the interest in the International Conference. After a lull that lasted nine years, the international conference today became the centre of political efforts and diplomatic contacts. It became an acceptable context for the solution of the Middle East crisis in a comprehensive and just manner. My government will continue its efforts to arrive at a formula acceptable to the concerned parties be they the five permanent members of the Security Council or the parties to the conflict.

As you recall, Jordan proposed last year the convening of an international conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council together with all parties to the conflict, including the PLO. Some concerned states adopted a negative attitude towards the convening of such a conference. Foremost among them was the United States. But this American attitude has progressed. The United States accepted the principle of convening the conference provided agreement can be reached on the method of its work, jurisdiction and those participating in it.

The Soviet Union's position was based on limiting the participation to the Soviet Union and the United States in addition to the parties to the conflict. But the Soviet Union lately accepted to participate in an International Conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council, in addition to the parties to the conflict. It proposed the formation of a preparatory committee to be composed of the five permanent members to prepare for the convening of the Conference.

France supported the proposal.

Currently the discussion revolves around the subject of the preparatory committee. Some states and concerned parties presented their ideas regarding this subject. One proposed the formation of the committee from the five permanent members and the concerned states. Another proposed the formation of the committee from the five permanent members and the parties to the conflict. A third proposed the formation of the committee from the states concerned with the five permanent members as observers. A fourth proposed the formation of the committee from the five permanent members with the concerned states as observers. One party to the conflict proposed the formation of the committee from the parties to the conflict only.

In view of this situation, we made our opinion known to the concerned Arab states and friendly countries. We told them that if it was possible to form the preparatory committee from the members who should participate in the international conference, that is, the parties to the conflict together with the five permanent members, why not convene the conference directly. But if the view for preparation prevails, we support the Soviet Union's view of forming the preparatory committee from among the five permanent members only. In other words, the discussion has now surpassed the question of convening the conference, since this is approaching unanimity. What is under discussion is now to prepare for it. We hope that discussion of this subject will end soon in order to concentrate on the convening of the international conference itself.

My government approached the European Community states to explore the possibility of those states undertaking initiatives to narrow the gap between the American and Soviet views in this regard. These contacts will be continued.

As for the second front — that of developing ways and means to support our people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — my government formulated a plan for the development of the occupied Palestinian land that is essentially based on the strategy laid out by the 1978 Baghdad Arab summit. We benefited from the assessment of the previous experience in the support of steadfastness over the last nineteen years. As you know, Honourable Notables and Deputies, steadfastness support is the only option available to us in the no-war-no-peace situation, which strengthens the affirmation of the Palestinian identity on the Palestinian land, as the central fact which gives legitimacy to our struggle for the recovery of the national rights of the Palestinian people. This is the fact that has been unanimously agreed to by all the Arab states. Based on this fact, they support Jordan's policy which we have followed since the war of 1967. Let me make it quite clear that steadfastness support does not constitute, and cannot be a substitute for, a just and comprehensive solution.

You may recall, in my opening address at your last session, my warning of the deterioration in the conditions in the occupied territories and the dangers threatening the entire Palestinian cause

if the Palestinian people under occupation were left to wilt and disintegrate in their economic, social and cultural fabric. I called for an urgent Arab meeting to discuss these dangerous conditions in the manner they deserve. That meeting never took place. In addition, some of the Arab countries did not fulfill their commitments to the steadfastness support fund. Because of this, and in the light of assessment of previous experience in the steadfastness support method, my government decided to formulate a comprehensive development plan for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Previously, the method followed was to respond to requests submitted by individuals, institutions and associations within the limits of the fund. This method proved to be insufficient and inadequate since it dealt with the Palestinian people in the occupied land in a fragmented manner, and not integrally and comprehensively. This method of steadfastness support was nearer to charity than to a systematic method of strengthening the structure of the Palestinian entity and the identity of its people. Thus it was necessary to rectify the outlook and the method to harmonise the action with the intention.

Despite the soundness of the outlook, the sincerity of the orientation and the validity of the methodology, there were some doubting voices here and there. We were not surprised by these voices since some emanated from those who capitalised on the occupation as a means for profiteering. Others emanated from those who perfected the art of changing positions with the change in their posts. Others emanated from those who always found it easier to pronounce slogans whilst taking no action. We would like to say to them all that their motives are apparent and that their strange utterances will not turn us from forging ahead and carrying out our national responsibilities in supporting the steadfastness of our people who remain rooted in their homeland, thus preserving the Palestinian Arab identity through deeds rather than claims and pretensions.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

On the Arab scene, my government continued to develop our relations with the various brotherly Arab states. We believe that dialogue should be expanded in order to attain a position that enables the restoration of Arab solidarity and the revival of joint Arab action.

By the grace of God and the cooperation of the brotherly Arab leaders, we revived and developed bilateral relations with each Arab state individually. We formed joint governmental committees with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Morocco and Tunisia. These committees meet on a regular basis to discuss events and take decisions to further mutual interest. It is our hope that bilateral relations will develop in such a manner as to lead to a collective understanding which will restore Arab solidarity to its proper place. Bilateral relations — positive though they may be — cannot be a substitute for collective Arab action. We coordinate with the brotherly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in all that concerns our nation and two countries. We thank Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of our brother, His Majesty King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, for the continued support and the fulfillment of its commitments to us. Within this context I would like to convey our thanks and appreciation for the brotherly Arab states, members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, for their continued contribution to the support of Jordan's steadfastness which represents the forward Arab front. We also coordinate and cooperate with the Arab Republic of Egypt, through my meetings with its noble Arab leader, my brother, His Excellency President Hosni Mubarak, to discuss main Arab affairs. We coordinate and cooperate with the Syrian Arab Republic, through my brother, His Excellency President Hafez Al Assad, in matters relating to overall Arab affairs, particularly our joint position regarding peace requirements and the international conference. We coordinate and cooperate with the Iraqi Republic, through my brother, His Excellency President Saddam Hussein, especially in regard to our support for the just Iraqi position on the international arena, be it in defence of its country or Iraq's sincere call for peace.

I am duty bound to renew from this platform our support for brotherly Iraq, in fulfilment of Arab charters and, more importantly, as a result of our awareness of the repercussions of this war of aggression which Iran persists in continuing against Iraq.

The situation we face, dear brothers, is not just an Iraqi-Iranian war. It is more dangerous than that. The threat of this war of aggression in our view is not limited to Iraq, but extends to threaten the whole Arab Order. This Arab Order is embodied in a system that permeates the Arab Homeland from the ocean to the Gulf. This Arab Order blossomed at the turn of this century when our forefathers realised the danger aiming at obliterating their national identity. They became martyrs and fell victims because of their struggles in the face of colonialist plots from the beginning of World War I.

Nonetheless, they continued the struggle for independence and founded their Arab League to symbolise this complimentary Arab Order, seeking the unity of the Arab Nation. They wanted it to take full form and structure on the basis of its content which is deeply rooted in the spirit, conscience, history and struggle. This Order, dear brothers, is being threatened to its very roots. We have to be honest with ourselves, faithful to our martyrs and forefathers, and trustful custodians of the future of our generations, or we are not. Who amongst us would accept his own loss of freedom and identity, and fall victim to a new foreign domination that will always remain ugly and dejected no matter what mantle it assumes.

Protection of the Arab Order does not only mean ensuring its safety in the face of foreign threats, but it also necessitates the preservation of Arab identity against all attempts to suppress the true virtues of the Arabs and to disfigure their pure attributes.

We are witnessing today appearances of perverted conduct emanating from demagoguery, as well as disgraceful practices represented by terrorism, which harm our nation and reflect negatively on its noble values and principles. We are proud of our nation's heritage which was inscribed in the annals of history by the nobility of our forefather's morality, their heroism and their glorious contributions to the civilisation of mankind. Demagoguery can never be the basis for real nationalism, for it simply contradicts responsibility and rationality. And terrorism can never be a substitute for legitimate struggle, for it simply is an expression of cowardice and helplessness. And while we declare with determination the necessity to unify Arab action and direction, to regain Arab rights and to protect Arab lands, we simultaneously condemn with all vigour demagoguery and terrorism irrespective of its shape, form or origin.

We are Arabs, will remain Arabs and will fight for our Arabism and for the Arab Order which we and our forefathers accepted as our way of life and which determines our nation's path throughout time.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

In conclusion, I pray to the Almighty to protect your efforts and guide you towards that which is beneficial to your country and nation.

May God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you.

King outlines economic policies, future plans in address to Parliament

Jordan's accomplishments have gained international recognition by setting example amongst developing nations • Government is preparing a new water distribution policy on which a long-term strategy will be based ... and it aims to go ahead with the construction of water recycling stations • Our central aim remains that of providing our citizens with a clean, healthy environment and medical care for everyone • Government continues its persistent exploration for oil and will make serious efforts to exploit abundant oil shale rocks next year

Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's address to the start of Parliament's fourth regular session.

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

In the name of God the Almighty this regular session of the Parliament is now open. I would like, firstly, to extend to you my greetings and to express my deep satisfaction and appreciation at what has been accomplished during the last regular session, and the extraordinary session which followed, as a result of the close co-operation between the legislative and executive authorities. I commend your fruitful efforts in passing the backlog of laws which accumulated during the years when Parliament was suspended. Moreover, during the past two years the government submitted proposals for laws, designed to meet the requirements for modernisation, reflecting the aspirations of the executive branch of our government to steer our society towards the noble objectives specified in the Letter of Appointment of this government.

As I followed the agenda of the meetings in your committees and general sessions, my confidence in the course we are following and in the strength of our constitutional parliamentary practice has been strengthened.

In recognition of this confidence in our parliamentary system, a new election law was passed to meet demographic growth and the new administrative divisions, while upholding the principle of equal representation for both banks of the Jordan. The new law also reflects my government's determination to provide the opportunity for increased participation by our people, within the framework of decentralization and in support of local government throughout the Kingdom.

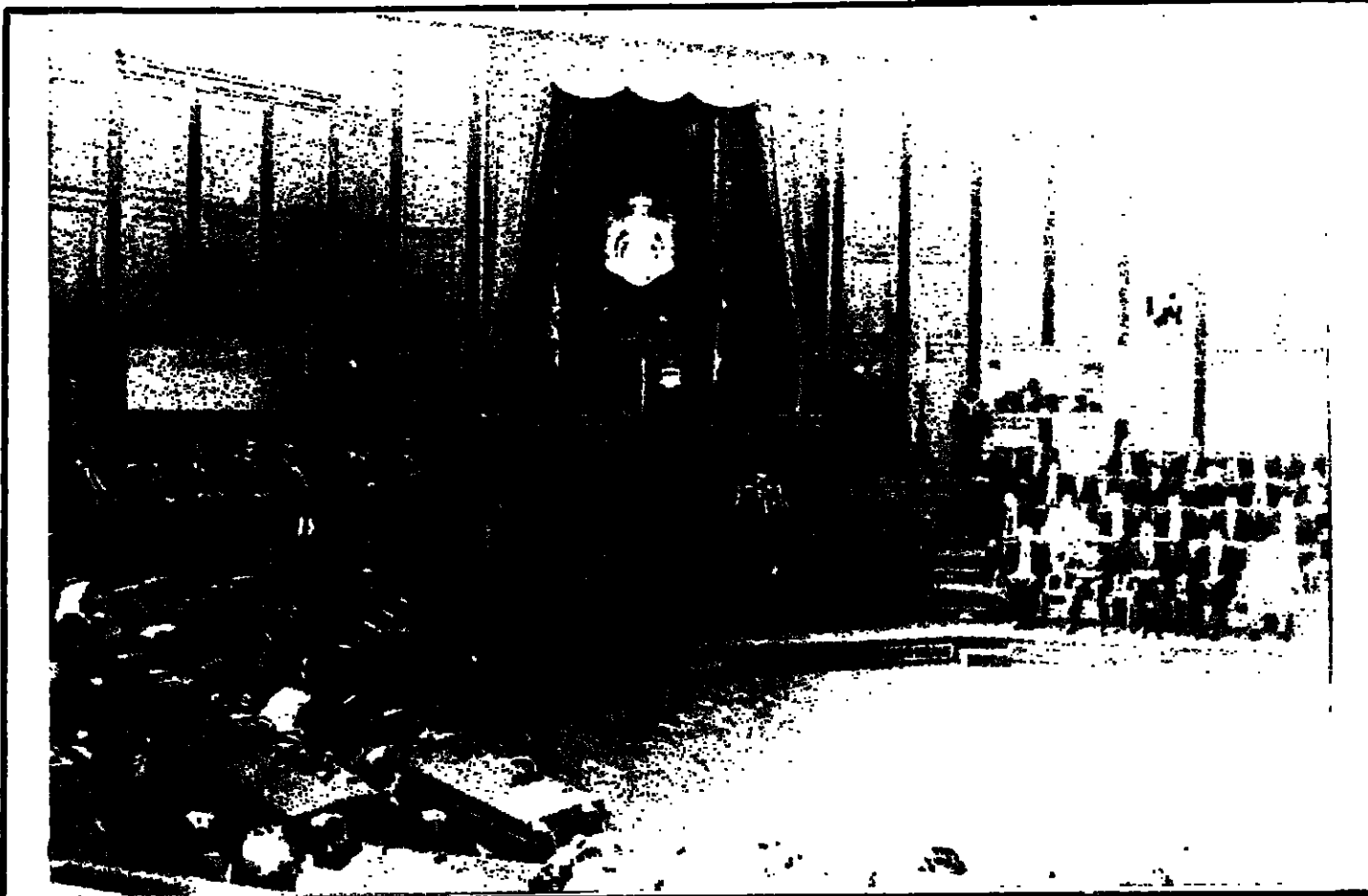
Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

The opening of the Parliament provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the course Jordan has taken and to re-evaluate its features and accomplishments. Since assuming my responsibility I have continuously followed its phases, seeking to correct it, when necessary, through my letters of appointment to successive Jordanian governments. Today, I should like to refer to the many accomplishments which we view with satisfaction. For we can say without pretensions that Jordan, by the grace of God, has successfully accomplished a great deal in the field of public services and comprehensive development. Our people have benefited from these accomplishments, which have gained international recognition by setting an example amongst developing nations. Even though these accomplishments have become obvious realities, we must strive to cement and build on them. While reaping their benefits, future generations will acknowledge, with gratitude, the great efforts exerted in the realization of these accomplishments. It is incumbent on them to continue to build on and to safeguard those achievements. From this platform I call upon our educational institutions and the media to emphasise the significance and extent of these accomplishments thus providing an incentive for more.

The first priority of my government is the safeguarding of our national security; both externally and internally; to strengthen it and to protect it, and to adhere to the supremacy of law and order. Our citizens' security, and the safety of their lives, properties and dignity is a both human and constitutional right. By ensuring security and stability, standing up to threats and challenges, irrespective of their source, can we hope to develop and progress and to realise a better life.

The Almighty has privileged us by being the defenders of the longest confrontation line, protecting ourselves and our Arab nation against the fiercest colonial aggression ever known throughout history. This can only be accomplished through our constant strengthening of the Hashemite Arab Armed Forces. In fulfilment of our duty and responsibility, we should maintain their strength and continue to provide them with the most advanced arms and equipment from all available sources. Our Armed Forces have always been our hope and the guardians of our homeland. They are the symbol of our national unity, reflecting the healthy cohesion of the various sectors of our society. At the same time we are moving forward rapidly in training the People's Army throughout the Kingdom as a support for our Armed Forces in the defence of our homeland against foreign conspiracies and threats.

Internal cohesion in our country remains the base for stability and development and the major supporter for our valiant Armed Forces. This cohesion can only be built and strengthened in a safe



His Majesty King Hussein delivers a speech from the throne to the opening session of Parliament on Saturday (Petra photo)

and secure society. The achievement of this goal constitutes the main concern for our security apparatus which my government is continually developing and providing with all that it needs.

As for the supremacy of law and its continuous modernisation, my government reaffirms its commitment to the inviolability, independence and administration of our Judicial authority. The judiciary has always received, and will continue to have, our constant attention to enable it to realise its noble objective of upholding justice. Within this context, my government has endeavoured to achieve harmony between laws and socio-economic development. My government has established new courts of law throughout the Kingdom and special chambers to deal with cases of cheques, insurance and civil status. It has also drafted a proposal for a new Supreme Court, independent of the court of Cassation. It has further drafted the proposal for a Jordanian Judicial Institute to provide our judicial body with well qualified personnel. Additionally it has drafted a law for a Jordanian arbitration commission for the speedy settlement of disputes and another dealing with civil litigation procedure.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

My government is constantly preoccupied with providing the basic needs for efficient public services for the benefit of the individual whom we hold; as everyone is aware, at the centre of our attention. It is always striving to modernize his environment, and enrich his life with values and high principles.

We have achieved great success in the educational field, unique in our region. Compulsory education reaches all our sons and daughters of school age. Schools are now widespread in our cities and villages. We have become, in quantity, on par with the advanced countries. Now that our educational infrastructure has been established, to enhance the potential of our Arab citizens in their belonging to their nation, faith, heritage, history and culture, we should concentrate on improving the quality and opportunities in the educational system.

In this regard, my government has undertaken a review of our educational policies to further improve textbooks, syllabuses and programmes; to open more laboratories, libraries and workshops; to introduce computers in schools, to train efficient managers of education, and to decentralise educational administration in general. The Council and Ministry of Education constantly examine social and economic trends with the purpose of monitoring the relationship between education and employment opportunities in order to provide the necessary trained manpower to meet the needs of our comprehensive development plans.

My government has also made significant strides in expanding higher education throughout the Kingdom, while stressing the need to improve on the quality of education. It established the new University of Science and Technology, added the civil branch to Mu'ta University, and approved the establishment of private universities. The number of students enrolled in higher education programmes in Jordanian universities increased by fifty per cent.

A new Community College of Engineering Professions at Tafleh started this year, in addition to another established in Ma'an. The Ministry of Higher Education has put forward proposals to upgrade standards at community colleges in an effort to prepare mid-level technicians capable of carrying out their jobs efficiently. To this end, and as an incentive to students to follow professional specialisations at these colleges, links have been established between those colleges and the universities.

Applied exams, within the comprehensive examination, for different professions and specialisations were held for the first time in an effort to measure students' practical knowledge and ability to perform well. To provide proper academic and scientific counselling, lists of foreign accredited universities are continuously issued. The Ministry and the Council for Higher Education are continuously studying the system and its institutions to deal with legislative, regulatory and administrative shortcomings. Our principal aim will remain that of giving Jordanian citizens the opportunity to distinguish themselves in knowledge, experience, contribution and belonging.

My government is engaged in an extensive and continuous effort to improve public health services. We have accomplished a great deal in basic health care, especially with regard to immunisation. In this respect, UNICEF and the World Health Organisation have acknowledged our achievements. Long strides have also been made in primary medicine. Jordanian doctors were also the first in the region to carry out a heart transplant. As a result of this progress, Jordan gained international recognition, and was elected to the chairmanship of the World Health Assembly. My government has also started to prepare for the construction of five new hospitals in Irbid, Ajloun, Tafleh, Karak and Amman. This is in addition to the many health centres already established in different areas of the Kingdom. The government has also continued to regulate the consumption and classification of pharmaceutical

products in addition to monitoring prices and quality. The government has amended a number of health regulations covering, for example, the Jordanian Medical Board, health insurance, and the Higher Health Council, whose example has been adopted by many countries. Our central aim remains that of providing our citizens with a clean, healthy environment, and medical care for everyone, through the setting-up of a comprehensive national health insurance plan, towards which we are moving slowly but surely.

The government has continued its efforts in the field of social services by supporting voluntary social work for the handicapped and the elderly. It has also enhanced training opportunities for members of needy families. Your Assembly has already passed the National Assistance Fund Law which will allow the government to deal with cases of the less fortunate through bigger state effort in co-operation with the private sector. This is to assist cases of the poor and the needy, and to ensure a minimum level of income to all needy Jordanian families. The government, with the concerned authorities, continue to work on the comprehensive social survey which would help to achieve the Fund's national aims.

My government accords youth care serious attention. In view of the high rate of our young population, and in spite of the establishment of numerous cultural, social and sports clubs, it is still necessary to enhance the young's activities, talents and hobbies. Excellence should be properly cared for. My government has already referred to your august assembly a new youth law to raise the standard of services by enhancing co-ordination between official and private efforts.

My government is going ahead with its investment policy and care for the Awqaf. This will also include care for the Muslim holy places, the regulation of religious guidance, instruction and edict, and the proper functioning of the mosque, it being the primary Islamic institution. In this respect, the new religious instruction and Guidance Law has been enacted and the government has put forward a clear policy for mosque construction and care all over the Kingdom. It also facilitated the Hajj procedure and began to place memorial plaques on historical sites. With the completion of the necessary design work, five new Sahaba mosques will be constructed next year.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

Public services provided by the government are not limited to education, religious guidance and instruction, social and health care, youth and justice. On the contrary, they go much further, especially in taking account of modernising other services and spreading them among all sectors of Jordanian society. The government's achievements in this respect have been in:

The expansion of the drinking water network in all governorates. As water means life, the government has planned that drinking water should reach every community by the end of the Five Year Plan. Tariffs have been reduced. The government is preparing a new water distribution policy on which a long-term strategy will be based. This will take into account the various uses of water by households, agriculture and industry. The government aims to go ahead with the construction of water recycling stations in major Jordanian cities.

The increase in electric power generation and the expansion of power lines, enabled electricity to reach all those residing in the cities, and the great majority of those in the rural areas. The construction of the first stage of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station is completed. The government has also reduced electricity tariffs, and extends preferential rates to export industries so that their competitive edge is enhanced.

My government continues its persistent exploration of oil in the Kingdom. The discovery of limited quantities of oil in the Azraq region has aroused the interest of international oil exploration companies and their desire to carry out additional prospecting work. Your august assembly has already approved the agreements made by the government with two well-known companies in this field.

The government will make serious efforts to exploit the abundant oil shale rocks next year. Utilisation of this source will take the form of either retorting or direct combustion, to generate electricity.

The government has also achieved the following:-
— The expansion in the installation of modern telephone exchanges, and the provision of direct dialling services to many cities and villages. Work is going on in stages to link up the remaining areas. With the expansion of the domestic network, Jordan is now in direct dialling link with many Arab and foreign countries.

— The expansion in individual and group housing projects, especially those of the Housing Corporation, occupational housing and urban development.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

As we are concerned with the security of the citizen and his dignity, and just as we provide him with public services, we are also eager to achieve further growth in national income, raise living standards and the level of savings and investment.

Jordan has used scientific planning as the mode for the serious effort to raise incomes to achieve socio-economic development. My government will present the new Five Year Plan to an international conference for appraisal and support. For the first time, my government has adopted the concept of regional planning and asked local leaders to put forward governorate and regional plans to expand public services and concentrate on productive projects. This wide public participation in planning, execution and follow-up will have the desired effect in achieving these goals. The setting up of a special fund within the Towns and Villages Development Bank will provide the necessary funds to the greatest number of productive projects, in co-operation between the public and private sectors.

To achieve real growth in income, the government will work for:-

1. Increasing agricultural production to allow for a greater level of food security. In this respect, the government has applied appropriate agricultural patterns in irrigated areas, and has increased the cultivated areas. Having proved the economic feasibility of cereal and fodder production, and livestock production as well, through modern methods, the government has leased for this purpose large areas of land in the south east of Jordan to private companies at token rates. The government is about to finalise the distribution of arable land to deserving Badia population.

It is also going ahead with other agricultural projects, namely: The development of the Zarqa basin, the highlands and the Hammad regional project. Forestry and the plantation of fruit trees are also being encouraged. This is in addition to the construction of storage dams, the extension of the East Ghor Canal and the exploitation of the underground water in Wadi Araba.

Accompanying the expansion of agricultural areas and livestock production, the government is determined to reward agricultural producers and to further provide them with incentives to sustain their production and contribution. In this context, the government has always supported the farmer and is committed to buy certain crops at preferential prices. It also undertook to relieve the debt burden of farmers by rescheduling these debts and writing off interest payments for this year.

2. Increase in and protection of industrial production, and the expansion of industrial estates and avoidance of dumping.

My government was careful to rectify the position of major industrial concerns facing financial, technical and administrative difficulties. Their capital was restructured, loans rescheduled and similar concerns merged. The government took suitable protective measures against imports competing directly with approved local industries, whilst monitoring standards and quality, as well as prices. Having finished the construction of the Amman industrial estate, the government will start work in other areas, commencing in the governorate of Irbid, so that the socio-economic benefits are spread among the regions.

My government is continuing its efforts to deal with the chronic trade deficit and its pressing effects on our foreign exchange reserves. It will continue to limit luxury imports and those similar to the local ones. It will work to increase exports through bilateral agreements with sisterly and friendly countries, as well as through granting special credit facilities to exporters. At the same time, my government will work persistently to review various economic legislation, in accordance with the requirement of the development plans. This will include the encouragement of investment and import regulations.

3. Continued attention extended to the tourism sector. This includes the continuation of surveying, exploration, numbering and maintenance of antiquities in the Kingdom. Internal tourism will continue to be encouraged. Internal transport linking different sites of historical interest will continue to be modernised.

4. In the transport sector, the government will continue to improve links connecting different areas of the Kingdom, namely between areas of production and areas of population. This will take the form of completion, enlargement and maintenance of main, secondary and rural roads. The government will work to renew the railway line linking the phosphate mines and the Port of Aqaba to raise transport capacity. The separate passenger terminal at Aqaba Port will also be completed. At the port, an international coastal telecommunication station will also be built to ensure a satisfactory level of communication with ships at sea and to transmit weather reports.

In civil aviation, the government has already established an air radar control centre in the Amman air region. To enable landing at all times irrespective of weather conditions, Aqaba airport will be equipped with a main and auxiliary radar system. The government has always devoted special attention to Alia. The latter has already established an advanced and large engine maintenance and repairing centre, capable of meeting Arab airlines' needs in addition to those of Alia. Gradually, Alia's fleet will be modernised and its international network expanded.

My government has already dealt with the internal tracking sector and solved most of its basic problems.

5. Because of its special status in development, the government has devoted special attention to the construction sector. It gave Jordanian contractors and consultants priority in the design and execution of construction projects, and will also issue a construction code. It has referred to your august Assembly the draft law dealing with the construction contractors aiming at organising and supporting this sector.

This has been an active year, full of different productive activities in all fields. To give this free country its bright outlook, my government has striven to distribute its effort equitably among all sectors of the country.

Honourable members of the House of Notables,
Honourable members of the Chamber of Deputies,

In the shadow of the present depressed world economic situation, the nature of current international economic relations has left deep rooted negative effects on world trade, prices of raw materials, the oil market and exchange rates. This has deepened economic challenges facing most countries, particularly developing ones. In this disordered and clouded economic atmosphere, we were able, with God's grace, to deal with the negative effects of the situation in an efficiently flexible and confident manner. We have surpassed many difficulties whilst our principal economic indicators remained in their historically natural trends.

Because of our central geographical position, and our openness to the world, and because of our close relations with others, my government fully realises the effects of new and successive regional and international economic events on the Jordanian economy. It closely follows and monitors events to

(Continued on page 6)



His Majesty King Hussein salutes as the Jordanian national anthem is played (above) and reviews a guard of honour (below) prior to addressing the opening session of Parliament (Petra photos)



Amid unemployment, women advance in the workforce

By Cynthia Johnson
Rusier

LONDON — The decline of manufacturing industries in many industrialised countries — a bodyblow to hopes of full employment in the 1980s — has masked a quiet revolution in employment for women.

Throughout the industrial world, women have been increasing their share of jobs, while male steel and car workers join the dole queue.

Since 1978 some 70 per cent of new jobs created in the United States have been filled by women, according to figures from the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

In the four other major industrial economies — Britain, France, Japan and West Germany, all generally less successful in creating new jobs than the United States — women's employment rose about seven per cent while men's dropped nearly one per cent.

Many of these jobs have been part-time, low paid and in a narrow range of services such as retailing and catering. But new studies suggest more women are seizing opportunities as

entrepreneurs and are likely to make further inroads into such traditional male preserves as medicine and business.

The engine powering the surge in women's employment is the growing importance of service industries — including banking, insurance, public relations and tourism — in industrial economies, against the relative decline of manufacturing.

Women filled 50 to 80 per cent of all new service jobs between the mid-1970s and early 1980s in the 24-nation OECD group. This amplified a boost given women's employment by burgeoning government spending in the public sector during the 1970s.

"What's kept women's employment buoyant as a whole was the continued expansion of certain parts of the service sector. The growth of these matched falls in employment elsewhere," concluded Labour expert Liba Paukert in a study for the OECD.

Rising demand for part-time work has been a key factor in the trend. Its advantages to employers, such as lower labour costs, are sometimes criticised. But firms like the Berkhams, England-based F International show part-time jobs can suit women's needs, particularly the

growing number of married women wishing to remain in work. A computer consultancy house, F International was started in 1962 by current managing director Steve Shirley and a group of other technically-skilled women whose family commitments made it impossible to work standard office hours.

Since then the company has managed to "harness talent that might otherwise go untapped," said Rosie Simon, a spokeswoman for the firm.

Today, with annual sales of £9.1 million (\$13.2 million), it has 1,000 employees — mainly women who work freelance from home.

The firm initially "filled a gap" for Shirley — a former senior programmer for British computer company ICL — who, like many of her employees, "found that there was no opportunity to sell her services in a flexible manner which would allow her to raise her family," Simon said.

This was important in the fast-moving information technology field where an absence from the workforce could rapidly outdate one's skills, she said.

Women's experience in service jobs has also been the springboard for the accelerating numbers of women who are setting up in business for themselves.

The OECD's latest "employment trends", published this month, finds that although the self-employed are still more likely to be male, the proportion of women is rising everywhere, ranging from a high of 45 per cent in the United States to 36 per cent in Japan and 10 per cent in Luxembourg.

Growth has been fastest in the United States where the number of self-employed women jumped 76 per cent in the past decade, seven times faster than the rate for men, government figures show.

Two key factors are prompting women to start firms, says Robert Goffee, lecturer at the London Business School and co-author of a recent book "Women in Charge."

One has been the increased importance of the service sector, where often only a small sum of money is needed to start a business, he told Reuters.

The second has been frustrated career ambitions, mainly in new growth services, including public relations, financial and computer services.

In the post-war years, he said, women developed higher career expectations and "companies

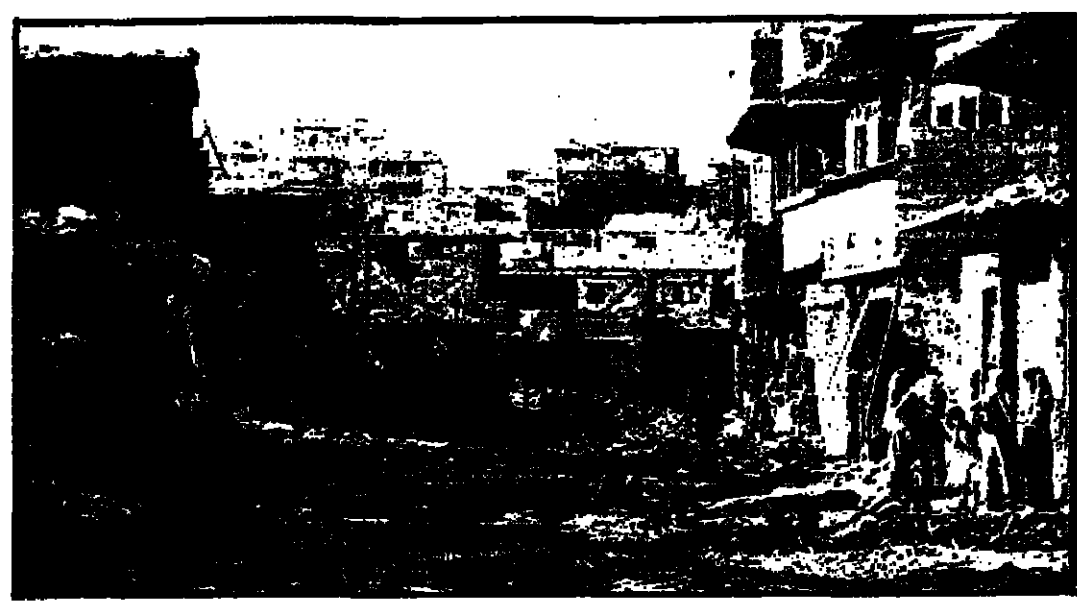
have not always changed fast enough to meet the changing aspirations of women, particularly in large-scale organisations."

His book concludes "that increasing numbers of highly qualified women will turn to entrepreneurship as an alternative means for achieving material and personal success."

Although much of women's increased job share has been in traditionally female areas, a new OECD study of education trends suggests women will increase their numbers in such male bastions as medicine, law, architecture and business.

"Women and girls in education" finds that although many women still follow such "female" courses as humanities, arts and languages, they now comprise nearly 60 per cent of medical students in Finland and Yugoslavia and over 40 per cent in Australia and Spain.

Meanwhile in some countries business studies are attracting women. In the United States, where masters degrees in business and management nearly doubled in the decade to 1981, the share of women receiving these degrees rose to 25 per cent from only about four per cent.



The main street of Shatila Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut after one round of fighting — formidable work awaiting Mr. Hallqvist

UNRWA director moves on to new challenges in Lebanon

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — UNRWA, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, caters for the health and education needs of 2.1 million people in the Near East yet, as the organisation's outgoing director Per Olof Hallqvist puts it: "we are often taken for granted."

On duty for the last four years in Jordan, Mr. Hallqvist has been dealing with various challenges caused by budget cuts coupled with an increase in the refugee population, currently standing at over 800,000.

"When UNRWA started 36 years ago," Mr. Hallqvist said, "there were only 650,000 refugees in the world. 'All were Palestinians'."

Today, the Palestinian refugee population stands over 2.1 million with an annual growth rate of nearly 3.2 per cent. There are 4.5 million Palestinians in the world, some of them living on their land, now under Israeli occupation, and the remainder in the diaspora.

Mr. Hallqvist described his four-year service in Jordan as "a difficult, but rewarding challenge."

Jordan is the largest field in UNRWA's operations with nearly 40 per cent of the refugee population. "It's a large scale operation, and we feel very much involved here," Mr. Hallqvist said. "It is a sort of semi-government organisation integrated in Jordan."

UNRWA runs the largest education operation in the world outside established governments. Of the nearly 370,000 students in UNRWA schools in the Near East, 136,000 of those are in the East Bank. It follows curricula set by the Ministry of Education. "We are a non-government organisation which adheres to the host government's system," Mr. Hallqvist said in an interview with the Jordan Times prior to his recent departure for his new post in Lebanon.

Responding to a question on criticism he received during his term here, gaining him the reputation of "a controversial fellow," Mr. Hallqvist said: "I don't think I'm controversial. I think that anyone who is guest running an international organisation of

this size in a foreign country is bound to face some problems."

Citing finances as the major problem facing his administration, he said that UNRWA had to carefully deal "with less (financial) contributions and an increasing number of refugees, particularly in UNRWA schools."

He said that because of budget cuts, the agency has not been able to maintain UNRWA installations at the required level and had to settle for buildings that were not exactly of the acceptable standard. The organisation's budget for this year has been reduced to \$191 million from the 1982 level of \$238 million, despite the increase in the refugee population.

That was caused by less contributions from United Nations member states. Mr. Hallqvist said that only 60 countries of the 156 members of the international community contribute to the organisation, of whom, only 20 states give substantial amounts.

UNRWA is also "competing with refugees in Afghanistan and Vietnam as well as the famine problem in Africa," Mr. Hallqvist said. There are between 14 and 16 million refugees in the world today.

The stringent financial conditions in UNRWA have forced the organisation "to live on relatively less money. Since the 1985 cuts, there have been very few construction work and a loss of some benefits previously offered to UNRWA staff," Mr. Hallqvist said. "This, naturally, caused some anxiety among staff."

Compared to the budget cuts, he said, "there have been little cuts in services." The main curtailment has been in the area of distribution of rations. Instead, rations are today distributed to the "special hardship cases," Mr. Hallqvist said. "There has been no other real cut in services."

On the status of the nearly 5,400 Palestinians employed by UNRWA, Mr. Hallqvist said: "We regret not being able to give staff benefits which our international U.N. commission had recommended," but added that "our staff have to suffer a little so that refugees won't suffer much." About 25 per cent of the

refugee population in Jordan lives in camps. "Naturally, this situation cannot continue forever," he said, "for we hope to get more money."

Mr. Hallqvist referred to a recent meeting between UNRWA Commissioner General Giorgio Giacomelli with representatives of contributors (paying more than \$1 million) and host governments. He said Mr. Giacomelli presented a three-year plan that would allow the annual budget to grow by five per cent a year and enable the organisation maintain its services at the current level. According to Mr. Hallqvist, participants in the meeting agreed to the plan but that "we hope they will show understanding when it comes to pledging money."

With the exception of the salaries for 90 (six in Jordan) international UNRWA staff, of the total 17,000, the organisation survives on voluntary contributions outside the U.N. budget.

Mr. Hallqvist, who began his career as an officer in the Swedish army, starts his 18-month initial assignment in Lebanon this week. "There will be plenty of challenges," he said, referring to the security problem in Lebanon. "But, as a military man, I'm used to this kind of life," he said.

Mr. Hallqvist said he was going to Lebanon "with an open mind and no prejudices." His main concern, he said, will be the security of his staff, both international and Palestinian. He said that the international staff, with their U.N. cards and body guards, will be facing less difficulties than the nearly 2,400 Palestinian staff. "For Palestinians, there is no such thing as security in Lebanon," he said.

Throughout his 18-month term in Lebanon, Mr. Hallqvist will be separated (except for occasional reunions) from Gunilla, his wife of 29 years and his children: two sons and daughter Maria, who spent her last six years in the Middle East — four of them as a student.

After leaving the Swedish army in 1976 as brigadier of the general staff, Mr. Hallqvist spent four years as director of the Lund University Hospital in Sweden. He then left for Saudi Arabia where he worked for two years.

Ethiopia expected to need emergency aid for decades

By James R. Peipert
The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA — Rain patters softly on the patchwork of green fields around this highlands capital, an expected plume of locusts has not materialised, and the U.N. emergency office is closing.

Two years after the outside world became aware of devastating famine in this East African nation, Ethiopia is gradually rebuilding its food stocks and supply system.

But, by most accounts, as many as 2.5 million of its 42 million people will teeter on the brink of starvation for at least another decade unless the country gets a huge transfusion of long-term development aid.

An estimated one million people died in Ethiopia alone during the 1984-85 Africa famine. Hundreds of thousands of other Ethiopians were saved only by a massive outpouring of international aid.

"The situation today is less alarming and more within the possibility of control than in those nightmare days," the head of the government's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, Berhannu Jembere, said in an interview.

But the Ethiopian official sounded a cautionary note.

"Despite misperceptions in some quarters that the crisis is over, we are still gripped by and continue to grapple with the problem of food shortage," Berhannu said.

Said the chief representative in Addis Ababa for UNICEF, Gregorio Monasta of Italy, "Ethiopia will remain a country in a situation of emergency for at least 10 years."

Michael J. Priestley, who heads the United Nations office for emergency operations here, pointed out that even in a normal year Ethiopia suffers a shortfall of 400,000 metric tonnes of grain, and about 2.5 million people go hungry. At the height of the famine, about 8 million people needed emergency food aid.

"It's going to take a lot of recovery," said Priestley, a Briton. Reflecting the diminished crisis, the U.N. emergency office, which opened in November 1984 to help coordinate famine relief, is closing at the end of this year. Priestley noted that staff members of the Addis Ababa office of the U.N. Development programme will still deal with famine aid.

Even by the U.N. officials' measure of normality, Ethiopia has a long way to go. Berhannu said his Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, the main government agency that coped with the famine, estimated

that 6.7 million Ethiopians needed emergency assistance in 1986, amounting to 1.24 million metric tonnes of food.

Projections are impossible now, but better crops are likely in 1987, with decent rains.

Providing there are no horrendous pest attacks, Ethiopia will have a good harvest," Priestley said in an interview. "You can say we are guardedly optimistic."

Plagues of locusts and grasshoppers infested huge swaths of Africa this year in the wake of rains that broke the drought. "We're beginning to feel we might have escaped," Priestley said.

But he said it would be "a fair guess" that at least 2.5 million Ethiopians will need emergency assistance in 1987 — the norm for the decade before the 1984-85 famine.

The main problem in 1987, Priestley said, will be pockets of famine caused by insufficient rainfall, a cattle disease called trypanosomiasis spread by the tsetse fly, localised pest infestations, hailstorms and flooding, and the lack of good roads to get food to hungry people.

Long-term projects have been under way, meanwhile, to try to stave off future famines and return some drought-ravaged land to productive use.

In November 1984, the Marxist government began an ambitious programme to resettle about 1.2 million people, moving them from the drought-prone north to the more fertile south and west.

Berhannu said 600,000 people were resettled by late February 1986, when the programme was suspended at least partly because of Western criticism that it was poorly planned and that thousands of people, flown from the highlands to swampy lowlands, had died of malaria and other diseases.

The relief and rehabilitation commissioner dismissed the critics as politically motivated and said the programme would continue after a period of "consolidation."

"We have saved thousands of lives," Berhannu said of resettlement. "Through resettlement, we can counter the recurrence of famine."

Some in the West also asserted that resettlement was a first step toward Soviet-style collectivisation and an attempt to deprive northern secessionist guerrillas of their population base.

The government denied allegations it was systematically denying food aid to needy people in guerrilla-held areas. But it rejected a truce to allow aid to pass into those areas.

Despite some Western

allegations of food manipulation and diversion of aid to the army, the U.N. emergency office estimated 95 per cent of all food aid delivered to Ethiopia could be accounted for.

It was also asserted in the West that the famine was caused in part by a lack of incentives for Ethiopia's farmers, who consequently grew only what their families could eat, laying aside no surpluses for lean times.

Berhannu denied that the famine could be traced to the government's agricultural policies. But Priestley noted that the government, at the urging of international agencies, has set up a pricing commission to boost farmers' incentives.

In another project, spearheaded by U.N. agencies, the European Community and Australia, trees are being planted and terraces constructed in Ethiopia's eroded highlands, to provide water catchment areas so the land can start to recover from centuries of abuse, such as the stripping of trees for firewood.

"There's no doubt that degraded areas of the highlands can be reclaimed," Priestley said. "But a massive investment of money and effort is required. Provided the resources are there, you're talking about a generation at least, may be two."

Austria faces up to industry rationalisation

Since the war, Austria has had an enviable record of industrial peace. Large subsidies and consensus between government, unions and companies have brought this peace, but things may change now, reports Patrick Blum.

VIENNA — Regardless of who wins Austria's general election in November, the country's nationalised industries are facing biggest upheaval since they were established shortly after the war.

Government plans, for major restructuring, inconceivable only a year ago, involve drastic cuts in the labour force and some measure of privatisation. They will be pursued, probably with even more determination, after the election.

There are two reasons for this: First, the governing Socialist Party and the conservative opposition People's Party are agreed that change is needed and that some of it will be painful. There is no alternative to major restructuring for the state sector, whose burden on the budget must be lessened, they believe.

Second, the public mood has changed. Following years of mounting deficits for some of the larger state companies and the dramatic Sch. 11.75 billion (\$308.5 million) losses last year of Voest-Alpine, the steel and engineering group, public dissatisfaction with the nationalised industries has become widespread.

They are seen as inefficient, costly, and open to patronage and corruption, and impatient with the failure of past Socialist governments to tackle these problems is growing.

Dr. Franz Vranitzky, chancellor, has caught the public mood with his emphasis on efficiency and his uncompromising support for sweeping rationalisations at Voest-Alpine, the largest state company. The restructuring plan presented by Voest-Alpine's new management early in September involves shedding about 10,000 of the company's workers within four years as part of a drastic programme to turn the company round. This announcement of the biggest layoffs in Austria's post-war history shocked the public, which has grown accustomed to governments bailing out state-owned companies in an effort to keep down unemployment.

Dr. Vranitzky's strong backing for the plan caused further surprise. For a Socialist chancellor, this was a dramatic shift in policy and a gamble.

The call for a general election following the recent collapse of the Socialist-led coalition with the small right-wing Freedom Party came before Dr. Vranitzky's policy could be put to the test. Initial reactions suggest however that the gamble was paying off and that his government would succeed without having to face damaging strikes and protests from the trade unions or opposition from within his own party.

Since Dr. Vranitzky, a former banker and finance minister, was appointed chancellor last June the pace of change in Austria has accelerated.

There are plans for several of the smaller companies and one or two medium-size ones to be sold off. Some of the larger companies will be encouraged to find private, possibly foreign, partners and others to raise funds on their own account in the capital markets or by issuing shares on the stock exchange.

Dr. Vranitzky gave a warning that the government would not continue to provide endless subsidies to state companies unable to improve their performance. He believes that long-term social benefits can be secured only with a sound economy and companies which generate profits rather than losses.

Voest-Alpine is the first test for the new strategy. The strategy appears to be succeeding, despite protests from local politicians and a strong attack by Dr. Alois Mock, the People's Party leader, who described the crisis at Voest-Alpine as symptomatic of 16 years of Socialist mismanagement. The People's Party has long argued in favour of rationalisations and Mr. Robert Graf, its economic spokesman, made clear that his party would not proceed very differently from what is now being proposed.

With the strong likelihood of a coalition government being formed between the Socialists and the People's Party after the

election, the consensus is likely to prevail.

The response of the trade unions has been remarkably muted. There have been no threats of strikes and Mr. Anton Benya, the veteran socialist president of the Austrian trade union federation, has said that he supports the company's plans, with the proviso that there should be additional help for the regions most affected. Other senior trade unionists have given a warning to workers against "overhasty reactions."

Change is also evident in the Socialist Party, whose fractious factions have united behind Dr. Vranitzky's strategy in the belief that it is their only hope of retaining power. Change is inevitable after 16 years in government, the Socialists believe.

The lack of protest so far may be just the calm before the storm. "We still don't know whether people will accept these measures," says Dr. Max Kohlschauer, a close aide to Dr. Vranitzky. Another aide adds: "People are still waiting to see whether it will really happen. The difficulty will be when they realise that there will be no turning back."

Voest-Alpine's plans were to be approved in parliament in October since they involve a further injection of Sch.21.5 billion in subsidies for the company to cover expected losses and restructuring costs. With parliament to be dissolved for the elections, the government is now

looking at means of ensuring that the company will receive sufficient cash to cover this year's expected losses of about Sch.7 billion while leaving approval of the full financial package until after the election.

To ease the social blow and limit the political damage the government is to provide additional social benefits, higher financial incentives for investments in the worst-affected regions and simpler procedures for setting up new businesses. The idea is to develop these regions' infrastructure, especially transport.

The government has been anxious not to undermine the unique Austrian social partnership — the institution which brings together employers, labour, the government and, indirectly, political parties to settle conflicts through consensus.

This system has spared Austria the damaging social and labour conflicts seen elsewhere in Western Europe.

The counterpart to industrial peace and co-operation from the unions is a commitment that governments will intervene in the economy and especially through the nationalised industries to maintain jobs and living standards.

Dr. Vranitzky is now saying that this is no longer possible. He has opened up new ground for the social partnership as well as promoting a radical change in attitudes and industrial relations practices — Financial Times feature.

New discoveries in ancient city show jewellery, pornographic mosaics

By Victor L. Simpson
The Associated Press

POMPEII, Italy — Archaeologists have discovered new evidence of the opulence of the ancient Romans, as well as their libertine habits.

The recent discoveries in Pompeii, a bustling city with an opulent lifestyle that was buried when Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D., came to light after a long-sought allocation of government money. Archaeologists, able to undertake limited excavations, found a jewellery workshop full of gems and mosaics with pornographic scenes.

In the two centuries since the first excavations of Pompeii, much has been learned about the lifestyle of the ancients, their architecture and use of urban planning. But one-third of the city, 237 kilometres south of Rome, still is buried under 19 to 23 feet of volcanic ash and debris.

Among the new finds are

mosaics depicting combinations of two, three or four men and women engaging in such activities as oral sex. Experts say the mosaics were found in a combination bathhouse and bordello.

That the wealthy merchants and visiting sailors had a touch for the erotic already has been documented.

Archaeologists have unearthed erotic art, graffiti and considerable evidence that prostitution flourished in Roman times. Such material is on the "must see" list for many visitors, though the Neapolitan custodians often discourage women tourists from viewing it.

But Baldassare Conticello, the archaeological superintendent of Pompeii, said the latest findings were unique in Pompeii and "unusual even for Romans."

"Erotic scenes of more than two people are very rare in classical art," he said in an interview. The discoveries were made near

the main entrance to the excavations at the Porta Marina, in the suburban baths. The site, the best preserved bathhouse found in Pompeii, is just outside the walls, on the road to the sea, and is believed to have been frequented by sailors.

The pornographic mosaics are now undergoing restoration and Conticello said they should be ready to go on public view in six or seven months.

Art historians have long lamented the deterioration of the ruins, which have been endangered by vegetation, the elements, vandalism and thefts. They received another blow from the massive southern Italian earthquake in 1980. Officials have said the tremor cracked walls in at least 100 places.

But as a result of the earthquake, Conticello said, the government finally gave money that is being used for both restoration and limited digging.

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Nottingham stays on top

Liverpool mauls second-placed Norwich 6-2

LONDON (R) — Neil Webb re-discovered his goalscoring touch Saturday to keep English First Division leader Nottingham Forest ahead of a clutch of clubs snapping at its heels.

Webb's supply of goals dried up after he had collected 10 in the opening few weeks of the season. But he was on the mark after 20 minutes against Sheffield Wednesday and played a decisive role in its 3-2 win.

Defending champion Liverpool, one of those clubs queuing up to push Forest off the top, took its goals tally for the week to 10 with a 6-2 mauling of second-placed Norwich.

Paul Walsh made the most of a rare outing in the first team with a hat-trick and, almost inevitably, Ian Rush, the division's leading scorer, chipped in with two goals.

Liverpool, who suffered a surprise 4-1 beating away to Luton last week, moved up to third place, two points adrift of Forest and one behind Arsenal, who scored its fifth successive win by beating Charlton 2-0 away.

Its goals came from Tony Adams and Martin Hayes, two of the youngsters who have put some fire in Arsenal's belly this season. Arsenal's joy contrasted sharply with that of neighbour Tottenham, who have been impressing under new manager David Pate this season.

It stumbled to a 2-1 home defeat by Wimbledon in a match soured by the dismissals of

Wimbledon's Lawrie Sanchez and Tottenham's Graham Roberts after a clash in the 82nd minute. Roberts was shown the red card as he was being taken off on a stretcher.

Forest, who had lost two of its previous three league outings, made hard work of beating Wednesday after taking a two-goal halftime lead through Webb and a Stuart Pearce penalty.

Lee Chapman kept Wednesday in the hunt right to the end with goals in the 55th and 80th minutes.

Norwich's championship aspirations appeared to have been buried without trace at Anfield, as Liverpool, still smarting from the criticism over its performance at Luton, went on the rampage.

The goals flowed after Steve Nicol had given it the lead in the 15th minute. Walsh scored in the 31st, 58th and 77th minutes and Rush took his tally for the season to 18 with strikes in the 50th and 71st minutes.

Player-manager Kenny Dalglish could hardly have

expected such a performance on the day he made his 500th appearance for Liverpool, substituting for the injured Nicol in the 73rd minute.

This time last season Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson was basking in the reflected glory of his side's stunning run of success in the league.

But it has been all heartache for Atkinson this season and there was more for him Saturday when England captain Bryan Robson suffered yet another injury — he limped off after only 11 minutes of the home match against Coventry clutching his right thigh — and United stayed near the foot of the table after struggling to a 1-1 draw.

Aston Villa, who has kept United company for much of the season, continued its revival under new manager Billy McNeill with a 2-0 home win over Leicester. Simon Stainrod settled the issue with two goals in the space of eight minutes midway through the second half.

The big match in Scotland between Glasgow rival Rangers and Celtic passed off peacefully.

Saturday there were only two bookings as the spoils were shared in a 1-1 draw, though Celtic will feel it did enough to earn both points having run the match in midfield and pinned Rangers back for long periods.

Becker downs Leconte to gain Paris final

PARIS (R) — Top seed Boris Becker reached the final of the Paris Open tennis tournament when he overpowered Henri Leconte of France in three sets Saturday.

The 18-year-old West German stayed firmly on course for his third straight tournament title when he crushed the third-seeded Frenchman's challenge to win 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Becker served with plenty of muscle, firing 16 aces to score his third victory over Leconte in as many matches following Wimbledon wins in the quarter-finals in 1985 and semi-finals this year.

Leconte, the last home player in the tournament following Friday's exit of second-seeded Yannick Noah, started disastrously by dropping his service in the first game.

He saved three break-points in the third and earned three himself in the next game only for Becker to thunder back with three straight aces — four in the game — to go 3-1 up.

Becker gained his second break to lead 5-2 and after setting the set on his second set-point with a

backhand volley to the far corner he appeared to be romping to victory when he broke Leconte's service again at the start of the second.

But, with the home crowd urging him on, Leconte hit back, stepping up the pace of his game to break back at 1-1 and break again to go 4-2 up.

Leconte staved off a break-point and served out for the second set, but then dropped his first service in the third just as he had in the first two.

Becker, 3-0 up, was no longer to be denied and dominated Leconte with his powerful all-round game.

In the seventh game he fired four aces and saw another denied by the umpire. Leconte saved Becker's first match-point but could not withstand the second when his service return landed well out.

"He played the best he ever played against me, so I had to play a little better than I normally do," Becker said.

The Wimbledon champion will meet Spain's Sergio Casal or America's Tim Mayotte in the final.

West Indies recovers

SAHWAL, Pakistan (R) — The West Indies was well on the way to recovery following its sensational test defeat by Pakistan Saturday when Jeff Dujon and Winston Benjamin inspired it to a commanding position on the second day of its three-day match against a Punjab Governor's XI.

Dujon and Benjamin steered the touring team to a total of 337 all out at lunch after which the West Indies spinners had the hosts struggling to avoid the follow-on. At the close, they were 128 for seven in reply to the West Indies total of 337.

With only one day remaining, West Indies may be unable to force a result, but its recovery from a potentially embarrassing 113 for five on the first day has been a much-needed morale-booster after the disaster of Faisalabad.

Dujon, making up for his two failures in the test defeat by Pakistan, hit a polished century and ended unbeaten on 126, including 16 fours and a six.

Fast bowler Benjamin gave lessons to the West Indies batsmen as he staked his claim to a first call-up for the second test starting in Lahore on Nov. 7. His personal best of 92 included 13 fours and two sixes.

England leads South Australia

ADELAIDE, Australia (R) — Centuries by Allan Lamb and James Whitaker, making his first-class debut for his country, carried England to a 77-run first innings lead at the close of the second day of its four-day match against South Australia.

Lamb hit an aggressive 105, including 14 boundaries, in 184 minutes and Whitaker, making a determined bid to press his test claims, scored 108, the 11th first-class century of his career and first for England.

Whitaker became only the sixth Englishman to make a first-class century on his debut — all six performed at the Adelaide Oval. His 210-minute innings included 13 fours and one six.

With the irrepressible Ian Botham thumping a whiffwind 70 from 62 balls, England reached 382 for eight after South Australia had declared at its overnight total of 305 for eight.

At the close, with Phil Edmonds and Graham Dilley unbeaten on 15 and 20 respectively, England was well in command — an unlikely prospect after left-arm bowler Sam Parkinson had ripped into its batting during the morning session.

Parkinson removed Chris Broad without scoring, Captain Mike Gatting for eight and Bill Athey for 18 as England tumbled to 38 for three. Then, however, Lamb and Whitaker came together and they scored 172 in 154 minutes for the fourth wicket, a partnership which turned the tide for England.

Parkinson finished with four for 76 after adding Whitaker to his victims. Leg spinner Peter Sleep took two for 53 from 18 overs.

Gomez, Krishnan advance to finals in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (Agencies) — Defending champion Andres Gomez of Ecuador, the second seed, and seventh-seed Ramesh Krishnan of India scored easy semifinal wins Saturday to advance to the finals of the \$200,000 Hong Kong Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Gomez, who is ranked no. 13 in the world, overpowered 19-year-old Aaron Krickstein of the United States 6-4, 6-1.

Krishnan, who is ranked no. 40 in the world but beat top-seed Jimmy Connors of the United States in the quarterfinals on Friday, defeated Australian Pat Cash 6-4, 6-2.

Thirty-two players are competing in the tournament, which ends Sunday. The singles winner will take home \$40,000 while the doubles winners receive \$6,000 each.

In his match with Krickstein, the 26-year-old Gomez was simply too strong for the U.S. player, who was seeded third.

Gomez took the first three games and although losing his serve in the ninth, he quickly broke the American in the 10th

for the first set.

In the second set, Gomez won five games in a row, allowing Krickstein only one game when he lost his serve in the 6th.

The 25-year-old Krishnan, who won the Japan Open two weeks ago, was in superb form against Cash, who was making a comeback after an absence from the circuit with back injuries.

The Indian never dropped a game in the first set and gained a service break in the 9th. Cash tried to break back in the 10th game and when he failed, he struck the ball out of the court, earning a warning for ball abuse.

In the next set Krishnan won two service breaks to clinch the match.

In the doubles semifinals, Mark DePalmer and Greg Donnelly of the United States beat American Paul Annaccone and Christo Van Rensburg of South Africa 7-6 (7-4), 6-4.

In the final on Sunday, they will meet Cash and fellow Australian Mark Kratzmann, who beat Americans Scott Davis and David Pate 6-3, 5-7, 6-4 on Saturday.

Amman Little League — Soccer for Oct. 31

Tots	
Near East 1	Goodyear 0
Asra 2	Lego 0
Juniors	
Nashashibi-Ebbini 1	Jordan Exp. 0
Volvo 3	Alco 0
Inter. Traders 1	Dorma 0
Mids	
Jordan Lift 3	Sakura 2
Eriqson 2	Squibb 1
Iskhal 2	Facc-IBM 0
Seniors	
Unichem 1	Marriott 0
Intercon 8	Al Ablyah 4
Cairo-Amman 3	Peugeot 1

McEnroe faces likely suspension

PARIS (R) — John McEnroe, barely back into his stride after a lengthy exile from the tennis circuit, finds himself on the brink of further banishment after an outburst against an umpire.

The former world number one faces the fourth suspension of his turbulent career after telling British umpire Jeremy Shales: "You're the worst umpire I ever had in my life."

The explosion, which occurred after McEnroe had tumbled to quarter-final defeat against Spanish qualifier Sergio Casal in a match punctuated by bad line calls, brought McEnroe a \$3,000 fine and took his total for the year to \$8,500 — way above the \$7,500 mark incurring automatic suspension.

McEnroe has 10 days to appeal against suspension, which would come into effect on Nov. 10 and run for three or six weeks — the latter if he goes ahead with other playing plans in the interim, according to a men's tour circuit official.

But the unexpected defeat of the former Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion by a man ranked 800th in the world had already put paid to his outside chance of a place in next month's Masters

Tournament in New York. McEnroe resumed competitive tennis only last August at Stratton Mountain.

After the setback he preferred to look at the positive side of his return to tennis, which has included straight tournament victories in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Scottsdale.

"I'm happy. I feel I'm getting myself into the frame of mind of the circuit. I'm happy to win the tournaments. I didn't realistically expect to win them all," he said.

"Ultimately I need to improve in a couple of places. One is my game and two is dealing with the umpires. I can't continue to let that bother me, because they're going to make bad decisions."

He said he hoped a machine could be invented to gauge court decisions.

"The sport's changed in the last 15 to 20 years since open tennis. It's a business now, whether people want to accept it or not, and the standard of officiating is just so below that of other sports that the players are being affected more than they should be," he said.

McEnroe, who has clashed with officials throughout his career, added: "Instead of everyone spending their time criticising me

— which is an easy thing to do — they should spend more time criticising things that need to be done to improve the sport of tennis."

"That's what's going to improve the sport — not telling people that I shouldn't be allowed to yell at umpires. That's a waste of time. They've been saying that for years and it hasn't stopped me."

He said he felt other players were happy to see him back on the circuit. "That's a good feeling. I need to just keep on forging ahead. I've got to stay positive and look at the bright side — not dwell on the negative things."

The Masters had been a target "to shoot for" after an absence from tennis during which his son Kevin was born.

"Maybe I put a little too much pressure on myself ... I've just got to keep my goals a little more reachable until I really feel I'm playing top tennis."

"But right now 86 for me was a good year in other ways — but tennis-wise it's not going to go down in the history books."

Earlier in the tournament he said he felt he could still get back to the top. "It's just a question of putting it all together, but that's what the challenge of being number one is all about."

Jordan Soccer Standings

Standings after the first leg of Premier Division

Team	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
Al Faisali	5	3	1	19	6	13
Al Ramtha	3	6	—	9	5	12
Al Duffaiein	4	3	1	15	6	11
Al Hussein	4	3	1	11	6	11
Al Ahli	4	2	3	11	10	10
Amman	3	2	4	10	13	8
Al Qadisia	2	4	3	7	11	8
Al Jazira	2	2	5	8	13	6
Al Quozazi	1	4	4	4	9	6
Al Nasr	—	3	6	2	17	3

Marseille returns to top

PARIS (R) — Olympique Marseille returned to the top of the French First Division Friday night thanks to a last minute goal from substitute Patrick Cubaynes against Nantes. With Bordeaux dropping a point in a 1-1 draw at Toulouse, Marseille went to the top on goal difference when Cubaynes ended Nantes' brave rearguard action by heading home a Jean Pierre Papin corner.

Norman leads in Australia

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Greg Norman fired to a 6-under-par 66 Saturday to take a two-stroke lead after the third round of the \$120,000 Australian PGA golf championship.

Norman, the British Open champion, had four birdies and an eagle in his bogey-free round, which left him at 12-under-par 204 after 54 holes.

The Florida-based Australian, who led the U.S. PGA tour in earnings this year, was being chased by countryman Roger Davis, who carded a 67 for a total of 206.

Another Australian, second round co-leader Graham Marsh,

slipped back to third at 207, after shooting a 70.

Behind them was Australian Peter McWhinney, who had a 67 for a 54-hole total of 208. Another shot back were Australian John Clifford, New Zealander Greg Turner and American Mike Colandro.

Turner carded a course-record 65 Saturday, while Clifford had a 70 and Colandro, from Hartford, Conn., shot a 71.

Norman is bidding for his seventh successive tournament victory and is closing on American Byron Nelson's record of 11 straight victories set in 1945.

"I played well and I capitalised on all my chances," he said. "I'm feeling a bit tired, but I'm as confident as ever."

Norman's power helped him conquer the par-72 Castle Hill layout.

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RE-INVITATION TO TENDER (HEALTH CENTRES) CENTRAL TENDER NO. (7/86)

- Due to some amendments in design and tender documents, the Government Tenders Directorate is hereby inviting sealed tenders from prequalified tenderers for the construction of the second group of buildings of Health Centres in Irbid Governorate comprising (4120 sq.m.) of built up areas and other ancillary works.
- Interested prequalified tenderers may obtain copies of tender documents from the Government Tenders Directorate - Amman against a non-refundable fee of (JD 100) for each set. Tenderers who have previously purchased copies are exempted from repayment.
- All tenders must be accompanied by a tender guarantee from an approved bank operating in Jordan in the value of (JD 15,000) valid for (120) days.
- Last day for purchase of tender documents is Dec. 4th, 1986.
- Tenders shall be deposited at the Govt. Tenders Directorate not later than 12.00 noon on Wed. Dec. 17th, 1986.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee,
Director, Govt. Tenders Directorate.

وزارة الاشغال العامة
دائرة العطاءات الحكومية
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS
GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE



RE-INVITATION TO TENDER (HEALTH CENTRES) CENTRAL TENDER NO. (8/86)

- Due to some amendments in design and tender documents, the Government Tenders Directorate is hereby inviting sealed tenders from prequalified tenderers for the construction of the second group of buildings of Health Centres in Amman and Balqa Governorates comprising (5090 sq.m.) of built up areas and other ancillary works.
- Interested prequalified tenderers may obtain copies of tender documents from the Government Tenders Directorate - Amman against a non-refundable fee of (JD 100) for each set. Tenderers who have previously purchased copies are exempted from repayment.
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"I was a step slow at the start and she was very sharp and pumped up," Gadusek said. "In a match like this, anything can happen. But I knew if I hung in there, she might not be able to keep playing so well. I just had to keep my feet moving."

Gomer, who with Annabel Croft lost a doubles match to Gadusek and Rinaldi 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 Friday night, was sidelined Saturday by an infected toe.

Earlier Friday, Gadusek had beaten Durie 6-2, 6-4, and the doubles victory gave the United States an insurmountable lead in the best-of-seven competition.

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Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573

TAIS-TOI QUAND TUPARLES

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

MELODIES

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198

FEAR CITY

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

مكتبة لادبي

Filipino Communist rebels offer 100-day cease-fire

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Communist rebels Saturday offered a cease-fire by Christmas.

They called on the government to disband "notorious" militia and regular army units and guarantee rebel leaders immunity from arrest during broader peace talks to end the 17-year-old insurgency.

A statement issued by the Communist-led National Democratic Front (NDF) said the rebel proposal was submitted to a government panel at a meeting Saturday morning, signalling the resumption of stalled peace talks between the two sides.

"We, therefore, dare to hope that for the first time in many, many years, the guns will be still on both sides this Christmas and New Year," the statement said.

Presidential Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo said the proposal included "conditions" that still have to be "analysed and studied." But he said the proposal was welcome because it meant the resumption of peace talks.

He said President Corason Aquino has not seen the proposal. He said government negotiator Teofisto Guingona, who got the

proposal from the rebel panel's lawyers, was not scheduled to report to the president until Monday.

In the statement, the NDF said the Communist Party of the Philippines and its New People's Army (NPA) were prepared for a 100-day cease-fire which could begin as early as Dec. 10.

Such a cease-fire would extend through a plebiscite on a new constitution planned in January and the first anniversary of Mrs. Aquino's assumption of power in the February civilian-backed revolt that ousted President Ferdinand Marcos.

The NDF statement, released to reporters at a news conference in a Manila safe house, identified five points which it said the rebel panel had submitted "for implementation of the cease-fire." Rebel negotiator Satur Ocampo said they were not pre-conditions.

The five points include disbanding of militia and regular military units accused of

human-rights abuses and the disarming of private armies the government uses to help fight the Communists.

"If an agreement can be reached at once on our proposal and we finally receive our long-awaited safety and immunity guarantees, a nationwide cessation of hostilities could go into effect as early as Dec. 10, to last until March 1987," the statement said.

It proposed that broader negotiations to settle the insurgency be initiated a month after a cease-fire has been agreed upon.

Mr. Ocampo said the rebels were not imposing any conditions for the cease-fire but were simply identifying points to "ensure that it will work out."

"It could be that the government and the NDF may agree on a cease-fire and work out specific questions later on or we may resolve these specific points before the cease-fire agreement is signed," he added.

The proposal came more than a week after Mrs. Aquino, who has been pressing for an immediate unconditional cease-fire, said she

would set a deadline soon for the Communists to accept peace or face a "declaration of war."

In addition to the disbanding of the "notorious" militia and military units, the NDF also asked for confining police forces throughout the country to fighting ordinary crimes and a clear definition of what "hostile acts" would constitute cease-fire violations.

The statement said the rebels would have made their cease-fire proposal much earlier but held back after the Sept. 29 arrest of Rodolfo Salas, the alleged Communist Party chief.

Although it did not tie Salas' arrest to the cease-fire, the statement said the rebels will continue to press demands for his release.

Meanwhile, the government's news agency reported Saturday that 2,092 people have been killed in rebel activity throughout the country since Mrs. Aquino came to power in February.

Quoting military records, the agency said the total included 804 rebels, 688 soldiers and 600 civilians.

Pakistani police restore calm after riots; 13 die

KARACHI (R) — Troops restored calm Saturday in two Pakistani cities under curfew after ethnic riots in which at least 13 people were killed and dozens injured.

Police said nine people died in Karachi and four in Hyderabad in clashes Friday between armed groups of "mohajirs" — Urdu-speaking immigrants — and Pathans.

Spokesmen at Karachi hospitals said 48 people had been treated for stab and bullet wounds and many more had not sought treatment for fear of police reprisals.

Troops imposed an indefinite curfew on parts of both cities Friday night. Officials said it would be lifted in Hyderabad, 175 kilometres east of Karachi, for 90 minutes Saturday afternoon.

The clashes were the worst for six months between the two communities, which have a 20-year history of ethnic violence.

The Mohajirs, Muslims who migrated to Pakistan from other parts of British India at partition in 1947, make up almost a third of Karachi's estimated seven million people.

They say a quota system for government jobs and places in educational institutions discriminates against them. They accuse the Punjabi and Pathan communities, who moved to Karachi from other parts of Pakistan, of getting preferential treatment.

Friday's violence in Karachi began as a procession organised by the Mohajir Qaumi Movement (Refugees' National Movement) was leaving to attend a rally in Hyderabad.

Police said a battle broke out after a bus driver was stabbed as the column passed through a predominantly Pathan area on the outskirts. Both sides used rifles, pistols and daggers, which are freely available on Pakistan's thriving arms black market.

The rioting quickly spread to other parts of the sprawling port city. Crowds burned vehicles, ransacked shops and fought with iron bars, sticks, knives and stones.

In the suburb of Liaquatabad police used tear gas to break up crowds which started bonfires in the streets with furniture looted from shops. Police said they arrested more than 100 people.

Punjab tense as Sikh terrorists kill seven

AMRITSAR, India (AP) — Punjab state was tense Saturday after Sikh terrorists gunned down seven men in a predominantly Hindu city and vowed to strike again on this "blood-red" festival day.

In this Sikh holy city, 2,000 militants gathered in the Golden Temple to denounce the Indian government and demand a separate homeland.

On Friday night, two gunmen on a motorbike killed seven and wounded two in Ludhiana. The industrial city of 450,000 observed a general strike Saturday in protest, and the situation was reported tense between majority Hindus and Sikhs.

The week-long Punjab death toll rose to 30 in a resurgence of terrorism. More than 500 people, mostly Hindus, have been killed by terrorists this year.

On Saturday is Diwali, the festival of lights, a major celebration observed by both Hindus and Sikhs. It symbolises the triumph of good over evil and the triumphant return of Lord Rama after vanquishing a demon.

But in Ludhiana it was a black day. Police said the terrorists were targeting clean-shaven men. Most Hindus are clean-shaven, while Sikhs usually are bearded.

Sikh terrorists warned there would be more killings this weekend.

"This will be the worst Diwali ever. It will be a blood-red celebration. We will strike," read posters signed by the "Khalistan Commando Force," a major terrorist group.

The posters were put up on two Hindu temples in north central Jalandhar city. Khalistan is the name of a separate nation demanded by Sikh radicals.

Punjab Police Chief Julius F. Ribeiro said Friday night in Chandigarh that police could not raid the temple to drag out the wanted men "because there would be a bloodbath and we would lose our own men in gunfire."

Ribeiro, who escaped an assassination attempt by Sikhs on his own police force on Oct. 3, earlier this year led a three-month drive against terrorists.

"The terrorists have organised again," he admitted Friday.

"There has been a spurt in violence because we have failed to nab the organisers of the killer squads. Terrorism cannot be wiped out completely. As in other parts of the world, like Northern Ireland, we will have to live with it."

Throughout most of India, Friday's anniversary of Mrs. Gandhi's slaying was observed with prayers, peace marches and speeches praising her as a martyr.

In New Delhi, Mrs. Gandhi's son and successor, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, wore a bullet-proof vest as he visited a memorial to her at her residence. Her bloodstains at the spot where she was shot in her garden have been chemically preserved and covered with glass.

Mr. Gandhi sprinkled water from each of India's major rivers at his mother's cremation site, accompanied by religious chants and patriotic songs.

Poll shows Nakasone cabinet's popularity drops

TOKYO (AP) — The popularity of Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's cabinet has declined in the past few months, while the opposition Japan Socialist Party has gained support, according to a newspaper poll published Saturday.

The nationwide poll conducted Wednesday and Thursday by the Asahi Shimbun newspaper indicated that 42 per cent of those responding supported the Nakasone cabinet, down from 48 per cent in August.

The most support Mr. Nakasone's cabinet received in Asahi polls was 53 per cent in March and May, the last two surveys before the July 6 general elections.

Mr. Nakasone, who led his

ruling Liberal Democratic Party to a landslide victory in those elections, was given an extension of his term as party president and Japanese premier. The 68-year-old leader's second two-year term would have ended Friday.

The newspaper said analysts attributed the drop in popularity to a series of mistakes made by Mr. Nakasone, including disparaging remarks about U.S. minorities that created a furor in the United States.

About 70 per cent of those questioned criticised Mr. Nakasone's remark that the literacy level in the United States "is lower because of a considerable number of blacks, Puerto Ricans and Mexicans."

Paper says Communism not China's ideal

PEKING (AP) — Making China a more democratic, modernised state instead of pursuing Communism should be the national ideal, an official daily said Saturday in a front-page commentary.

"In the past, the ideal people talked about could not be anything else but Communism, and a person who had other pursuits was liable to be considered aimless," the Guangming Daily said.

"This was really a narrow-minded view that scared those patriots who wanted to make contributions to the country."

Excerpts of the article were reprinted in English in the official Xinhua News Agency.

It said that in a vast, heavily populated and unevenly

developed nation like China "people vary a lot in their ideological level, consciousness and interests, making individuals likely to follow different pursuits."

It said the common ideal of the nation can thus best be found in hope that "China can become a more democratic, prosperous and civilised country, with a better economy and higher living standard. In other words, hoping that China will become a modernised Socialist country as soon as possible."

It said achieving this ideal required that all concepts and ideas be respected and protected as long as they contribute to the nation's development and people's happiness, and so long as they advocate striving for a better life through honest and hard work.

The commentary was in line with the policies of senior leader Deng Xiaoping, who has played down ideological purity and stressed that economic flexibility and a measure of democracy are essential if China is to bring a better life to its people.

Mr. Deng has encouraged private entrepreneurship and market principles and told Communist Party and other bureaucrats to stop meddling in the running of businesses. He has also urged greater freedom of expression in the arts and political decision-making.

Chinese officials have stressed, however, that while Marxism can be interpreted to meet China's needs, China has no intention of abandoning its Marxist philosophy or its one-party rule.

Arbatov: Americans did not ask for 'Laboratory' definition on 'Star Wars'

MOSCOW (AP) — A Moscow official at the Reykjavik summit said Friday that Americans at the meeting never asked what the Soviets meant when they demanded U.S. "Star Wars" testing be confined to the laboratory.

Georgy Arbatov, in an interview on Soviet national television, said he disagreed with the American version of the summit. The Americans have said the summit collapsed because the Soviets demanded the U.S. limit testing of weapons developed under the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), the formal title of "Star Wars."

The summit collapsed "not because of one word (testing), but because of a divergence of views

on principle," said Mr. Arbatov, key adviser to Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev on U.S. affairs.

"They (the Americans) didn't even ask what was meant by 'laboratory,'" he said.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan did not ask Mr. Gorbachev about the laboratory issue, he said, and American experts did not ask their Soviet counterparts in a special group on arms control.

"They failed to ask us what it meant," Mr. Arbatov said. "So the matter was not in this. They just don't want any restrictions on the SDI programme."

Mr. Arbatov did not say, however, that the Soviets had meant by laboratory testing.

U.S. officials have said the

Soviets clearly talked of "laboratory" testing in Reykjavik.

Since the summit, Soviet officials have hinted that this definition might include testing on ranges. But U.S. officials say the Soviets have not clarified their stand at the Geneva talks on arms control.

A senior Western diplomatic source familiar with the Geneva talks said he is not aware the Soviets have offered any formal new proposals since the Oct. 11-12 summit.

The United States this week offered a proposal calling for 50 per cent cuts in strategic nuclear weapons in five years and reduction of medium-range nuclear warheads to 100 worldwide.

Zaire abolishes post of premier

KINSHASA (R) — Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko has abolished the post of prime minister and said he will take over running the government.

Two days after Zaire accused the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of strangling its economy, Mr. Mobutu moved former Prime Minister Kengo Wa Dondo, who was responsible for implementing the fund's policies, to the post of foreign minister.

State radio Friday reported a series of key government changes decided by the flamboyant Mobutu, who described his new team as one of "star performers."

Economics Professor Mabi Mulumba was named finance and budget minister. He played a leading role in criticising the fund during a meeting of the Central Committee of Zaire's sole political party, the Popular Revolutionary Movement.

On Wednesday the committee, the country's highest political authority, announced that Zaire would limit repayment on its foreign debt to 10 per cent of its export receipts compared to over 25 per cent in recent years.

Analysts said Mr. Mabi was likely to spearhead a new economic approach emphasising recovery rather than traditional IMF financial austerity.

Lawyer Nimy Mayidika Ngimbi was appointed to the new position of minister for the rights and liberties of citizens.

Mr. Mobutu has in the past stamped down hard on political dissent and accusations of human rights abuses.

Friday's reshuffle was expected after the Central Committee pledged to launch the mineral-rich former Belgian colony on a new economic course and publicly denounced corrupt politicians.

Red Cross conference ends on conciliatory note

GENEVA (R) — The International Red Cross has ended the most bitter conference in its history, marked by suspension of the South African government delegation and a report sharply criticising its aid projects in Africa.

The final session, grouping 300 government delegations and national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, concluded quietly with adoption of 16 resolutions dealing with issues ranging from torture to protection of civilians in war.

Kurt Bolliger, president of the Swiss society, told delegates the 10-day meeting had seen moments of crisis but concluded on a note of grace.

The conference, held every four years, was the stormiest gathering in the 123-year history of the humanitarian organisation.

The South African government was suspended in the early stages, after three days of bitter debate, by a 159-25 vote in protest against Pretoria's apartheid policy of racial separation.

Official reports said Red Cross and Red Crescent aid to drought-stricken African countries over the past two years was often ineffective, inefficient and uneconomic. They said lives were lost which could have been saved.

Another wrangle involved changing the group's name to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, adding the reference to the Red Crescent symbol of Muslim members.

The Israeli government delegation strongly opposed the decision, arguing that it gave a religious connotation to the symbol and noting that its own Red Star of David emblem was banned.

In another controversial move, the meeting's governing body recommended for later consideration a request by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for observer status.

In a pre-arranged compromise this passed without opposition.

In a final address, the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which mediates in prisoner and hostage crises, called on delegates to reject in future the political wrangles which have marred other international forums.

South Korean students end protests over campus storming

SEOUL (R) — A wave of student anger over Friday's massive police action against South Korean campus radicals subsided Saturday.

There were rallies and sit-ins at 10 universities in Seoul and Pusan overnight but by mid-morning all but one had ended peacefully. A hard core of about 50 demonstrators remained barricaded in the library of a college in Pusan, the country's

second largest city.

State Prosecutors worked throughout the night interrogating more than 1,200 students. They were detained at Seoul's Koeksok University Friday morning after 7,000 riot police stormed five campus buildings held by radicals for almost three days.

Those students and another 267 held earlier in the week were being questioned in 22 police stations throughout the capital.

3 Armenians get life term for Turkish embassy siege

OTTAWA (R) — Three Armenians charged with the slaying of a security guard during the seizure of the Turkish embassy here last year were found guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Under Canadian law, for a conviction of first degree murder there is no possibility of parole for 25 years.

An Ontario Supreme Court jury reached the guilty verdict against Ohannes Noubarian, 30, of Montreal, Kevoork Marachelian, 35, of La Salle,

Quebec, and Rafi Panos Titizian, 27, of Toronto.

Noubarian, speaking in Armenian, apologised on behalf of the three men for the fatal shooting of Claude Brunelle, 31, the security guard on duty at the embassy when the siege began on March 12, 1985.

Noubarian said the shooting clouded their goal, which was to regain their homeland from the Turks, who he said committed genocide against the Armenians in 1915.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SEARBY
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A TASTE OF DUCK

East-West vulnerable. North deals.

WEST EAST

♠ K94

♥ J332

♦ K8

♣ A J95

WEST EAST

♠ J10

♥ A76

♦ Q J109653

♣ 10

SOUTH

♠ Q6532

♥ KQ

♦ A K

♣ K632

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠

2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

Overtricks do not mean all that much at rubber bridge. At duplicate, however, they are often of crucial importance. Failure to make an overtrick resulted in an absolute zero on this deal from the French Mixed Pair Championship, reported in *Le Bridgeur*. Would you have played differently?

his strength with a cue-bid, then contented himself with game when North simply supported his suit.

The spade game was reached at every table, and the lead was invariably the queen of diamonds—as it happens, the singleton club would have trumped to a ruff if East was the first trump and returns a club. The declarer won and led a trump to the king and ace. They won the return, cashed the queen of trumps and, thanks to the jack-ten falling, they were able to draw the last trump and concede a heart for an overtrick.

That's how the play went at every table except one. When Herre Moule led the East cards, he allowed the king of spades to hold the second trick! This simple strategy led declarer to believe West held the ace of spades. Therefore, he continued with a low spade from dummy and ducked in hand. West scored the jack, and declarer had held himself to ten tricks.

Ducking the ace of trumps was a play that was unlikely to cost. How much it stood to gain is borne out by the actual result. However, we must confess that had we been declaring and received this defense, we too would have been held to one trick fewer than the rest of the field.



Australian glazier had windows broken

MELBOURNE (R) — A glazier who drummed up trade by paying to have bricks hurled through windows was given a 12-month suspended sentence in an Australian court. Cesare Dichiera, 43, would offer to repair the windows he had paid a young employee to break, the crown prosecutor told a Melbourne court. Dichiera pleaded guilty to smashing the windows of a welfare centre where he was later awarded a reprieve job. In suspending Dichiera's sentence, the judge said publicity had forced the man to sell his business and a jail term would do him cause hardship to his young family.

Reindeer may get 'atomic AIDS'

STOCKHOLM (R) — Radiation from the Soviet Union's Chernobyl nuclear disaster could destroy the immune system of Scandinavian reindeer and make them victims of what scientists call "atomic AIDS." A Swedish magazine has reported. The journal by Teknik quoted Tor Gunnarsson, a researcher at the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Conservation, as saying the animals could be seriously affected by the radioactive substance Strontium-90. They feed on mountain lichen, highly contaminated by the fallout from the radioactive cloud which blew across Scandinavia after the April 26 nuclear accident in the Ukraine. Gunnarsson said the reindeers could develop radiation levels of up to 1,000 times the accepted amount for human beings. "The result could be something like atomic AIDS," he said, referring to the acquired immune deficiency syndrome which destroys the human body's ability to fight off disease.

Kenyan officials have seized an illegal cargo of 962 elephant tusks found on a ship in this East African port city. Officials said the tusks were secreted among bags of wheat and had not been declared by the shipping agent as part of the cargo. Kenya banned game hunting and trade in game products in 1977 as a wildlife conservation measure.

Kenyan officials seize 962 elephant tusks

MOMBASA, Kenya (R) — Customs officials have seized an illegal cargo of 962 elephant tusks found on a ship in this East African port city. Officials said the tusks were secreted among bags of wheat and had not been declared by the shipping agent as part of the cargo. Kenya banned game hunting and trade in game products in 1977 as a wildlife conservation measure.

Calcutta jails 1st AIDS victim

CALCUTTA (R) — The Calcutta high court has decreed that the city's first recorded AIDS victim should be treated in hospital within 10 days or else be released from jail, where she has been confined for the past week. Dikl Bai, 30, a prostitute, continued soliciting in Calcutta's dock area even after being declared infected with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), and was put in preventive detention, police told Reuters. But the high court ordered the West Bengal state government either to arrange for her treatment or else to free her as she was not a criminal. A spokesman for Calcutta's Health Department said since AIDS could not be cured, jail custody was the same as confining her to an isolation ward in a hospital. The state government is expected to appeal against the court's order. Bai, who still appears outwardly in good health, told Reuters she did not know how she contracted the disease. "Maybe I got it from some sailor — this is what all the people are saying."

7 burnt bodies found on Japanese beach

WAKAYAMA, Japan (R) — The bodies of seven women members of a religious cult thought to have burnt themselves to death were found on a Japanese beach Saturday. Police and fire department officials said a 68-year-old man from the charred corpses at Hamaomoya Beach while walking his dog early in the morning. They said the women, aged 24 to 67, were members of the Christian-influenced Michino-Tome (Friends of Truth) Church. A fire department official told Reuters the women were believed to have set themselves on fire after the death of their leader Friday. He said the religious group, formed about 20 years ago, had about 60 members. Police said six bodies were found together and the seventh was a short distance away. A large container was found near them.

John, in 1985